DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 41 Section 1 May 18, 1931.

FEDERAL ECONOMIES

The press to-day states that President Hoover returned from his Rapidan camp last night convinced that $17,000,000 could be saved in the Interior Department in the next three years. The report says: "This conviction was the result of conferences held at the camp with officials of the department. Much of the saving was planned in eliminating some of the department's activities and deferring work which eventually will have to be done. It was estimated that $4,000,000 could be saved this year; $6,000,000 to $7,000,000 next year, and $7,000,000 to $8,000,000 the following year. Just what activities of the department would be curtailed was not announced. Neither was there any indication of what projects would be deferred...."

BUILDING PLAN

Preparation of a six-year Federal construction program to aid in stabilization of industry and prevention of future unemployment is about to be undertaken by the Government. Such six year advance planning machinery was authorized last winter when Congress passed the Wagner bill creating a Federal Employment Stabilization Board. It is to consist of the Secretaries of Treasury, Agriculture, Commerce and Labor. The purpose is to map out a Government construction program six years in advance which will serve as an economic balance wheel in times of distress. The measure embodies recommendations developed out of the depression of 1921 by President Hoover while he was Secretary of Commerce. (Press, May 17.)

WOOL FUTURES MARKET

Trading in wool futures will begin to-day in a New York market, the third of its kind in the world, established by the Wool Associates of the New York Cotton Exchange. The market will be known as the Wool Top Futures Exchange and a part of the nineteenth floor of the Cotton Exchange building has been set off for its trading space. Trading posts and quotation boards have been installed preparatory to the starting of trading this morning. The contract will be based on delivery in Boston, with freight differentials covering deliveries at other designated points. A large number of cities in New England and in the Northern Atlantic States have been named as delivery points. (N.Y.Times, May 18.)

CHADBOURNE ON SUGAR

The press to-day states that Thomas L. Chadbourne, chairman of the Sugar Stabilization Commission, whose plan has been accepted and signed by the representatives of seven nations, returned yesterday to New York. "The new sugar stabilization," said Mr. Chadbourne, "will help sugar prices in the United States, but probably not until late this year. Of course, if there is any great consumption, neither this nor any other plan will help prices. What the plan has done is to prevent prices from coming down to nothing. If it had not been for the segregation of sugar already produced--3,000,000 tons--and the cutting off of the production of 4,000,000 more tons, sugar would have gone down to one-half cent a pound, which would mean disaster for everybody. Cuba was at the point where she was producing sugar and could not sell it...."

Section 2

Compulsory Cooperation

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for May 9 says: "The supreme court of the province of Saskatchewan has declared unconstitutional a 100 per cent compulsory pooling law requiring every farmer to become a member of the pool. As grounds for its decision, the Canadian court declared such a law is interference with trade and commerce without the boundaries of the province, which would be contrary to the rights of the Dominion government to control commerce. Aside from the legal phases of compulsory cooperation, it is not the best way to develop cooperative marketing among farmers. Being forced to do a thing against one's free will is always unpopular and subjects the cause to greater handicaps. Voluntary cooperation in which the individual member enlists because he believes in its principles and opportunities, is the safest and most permanent course of agricultural progress."

Farm Loan Banks

All active banks under the supervision of the Federal Farm Loan Board showed, as of March 31, balancing assets and liabilities of $2,077,379,000, the board announced May 14 in a statement of condition. Three banks of the system are in the hands of receivers, namely, the Kansas City Joint Stock Land Bank, the Bankers Joint Stock Land Bank of Milwaukee and the Ohio Joint Stock Land Bank of Cincinnati. Of eighty-four joint stock land banks which have been organized, forty-nine are in operation. Assets and liabilities of the Federal Land Banks balanced at $1,294,834,000. Among the assets were gross mortgage loans of $1,323,069,700, notes receivable of $20,600,000, delinquent installments of $8,877,000, real estate owned $22,532,000, and sheriffs' certificates and judgments of $8,437,000. The principal liabilities were $1,183,402,000 in farm loan bonds unmatured and $66,295,000 in capital stock. The Joint Stock Land Banks reported assets and liabilities of $606,195,000. Of the assets $601,077,000 was in gross mortgage loans, $12,377,000 in notes receivable and $19,746,000 in real estate owned. Liabilities included $543,831,000 in form loans bonds and $41,603,000 in capital stock. Assets and liabilities of the Intermediate Credit Banks amounted to $176,350,600, the assets including loans and discounts to cooperative associations of $62,353,100 and to financing institutions of $75,730,000. Unmatured debentures of $109,825,000 and $60,000,000 in capital stock made up the principal liabilities. The twelve Federal land banks, from their organization in 1917, have closed 516,126 loans in an aggregate amount of $1,669,726,400. The Joint Stock Land banks have closed 129,186 loans totaling $394,774,758. Of the outstanding loans 6,566, amounting to $35,814,900, were issued by the three banks in receivership. (Press, May 15.)

Horse Situation

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for May 16 says: "Corn Belt farmers may not realize it at the present moment, but they will have it impressed on them very forcibly the next time we have an old-fashioned winter, that there is a shortage of horse and tractor power. The winters and springs of the past two seasons have been extremely favorable for plowing and getting crops in in good season. Partly as a result of this favorable weather for two years and partly because of the general financial situation, farmers have held their horse and tractor power to the minimum. Horses during the past two years have not gone down in

price like other farm products and we are anticipating that the first time we have a hard winter and a late spring, horses will go up faster in price than other products. We are not minimizing the unusual value of the general purpose tractors which have been introduced so generally in recent years, but we do think that in many parts of the Corn Belt there are farmers who, at present prices of corn, oats and hay, will find it necessary to have more horse power the first time we have a slow spring. The horse business will surprise people one of these days with a revival."

Large-Scale Farming

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for May 16 says: "Alongside the movement toward large-scale farming, which has made enough progress in some sections of the Southwest to attract the repressive talents of State lawmakers, certain contrary tendencies have begun to appear. The present migration from cities back to the farms may be the beginning of a trend,or, it may be only a fluctuation due to the sharp change in urban employment conditions since 1929. But in any case agriculture appears to have entered upon a period of reorganization which may have far-reaching effects upon our whole national economy. Farms of one to ten thousand acres, worked by power machinery, must evidently be regarded as in a sense the effort of agriculture to hold its position in world markets, controlled for the time being by the rising production of low-price areas. Mass production at minimum cost is the answer, or is assumed to be the answer, to a fall in world prices below the production costs of the average American farm. There is reason to believe that by these and similar means our wheat and cotton will hold a position in the markets of the world, even if social losses as yet undetermined may be involved. Mechanized farms spreading over many sections of land, however, are not the only solution of its problem which rural America is considering. At the end of an elaborate review of the 'jam' into which the world's topsy-turvy credit and tariff conditions have brought the American cotton farmer, who must send the bulk of his crop abroad, the Texas Weekly, of Dallas, says: 'What is the proper course for us? Shall we quit producing cotton and thus get out of the whole international mess? Well, we couldn't do that very well, even if it were the proper thing to do. But certainly we ought to take every possible step to make the people of Texas less dependent upon cotton....We have great facilities and resources with which to begin the work of transforming our economic set-up in such a way as to devote more thought and energy to supplying our own needs and less to supplying the needs of Europe and Asia. Does it not seem that a new declaration of independence is in order for us--a declaration of economic independence of Europe and Asia? And is it not high time to begin in dead earnest a concerted and well-directed effort to achieve that independence?' This looks, of course, to the industrialization of Texas, which might not prove so slow a process as it now appears...."

Swiss Diagnosis of Economic Conditions

An editorial in The Magazine of Wall Street for May 16 says: "For a long time to come when two, three, or more economists are gathered together the favorite sport will continue to be telling what caused the present business depression. Sitting more or less on political and economic sidelines, the neutral country of Switzerland is in a good position to observe and reflect, and the views of its economists

are entitled to respect. As expressed by the National Bank of Switzerland the Swiss view is that the depression was caused by: (1) increased production; (2) progress of rationalization (industrial efficiency); (3) crash of security prices, beginning in America; (4) maintenance of certain retail prices at high levels by artificial means. The effects of these causes were aggravated by the fact that the crisis came at a time when economic conditions in a number of countries, especially England and Germany, were already serious, by the universally unfavorable situation of agriculture, by political disturbances in several countries, bank failures, boycott of foreign goods by India, reduced purchasing power of China as a result of civil war and the depreciation of silver, the enormous war debts, and the revival of the reparations questions....As to the treatment of the economic depression, the bank is of the opinion that every curative effort undertaken by governments, international conferences and central banks has failed. The inference is that artificial means of controlling depressions are about as efficacious as those of savage medicine men against evil spirits...."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The New York Times of May 17 says: "For evidence of any lowered standard in living examine the butcher's and grocer's bills. Dr. O. E. Baker of the Department of Agriculture has done this for the Nation as a whole, and finds a notable change in our diet. The average American bought 4 per cent less meat than in 1929 and 2 or 3 per cent less dairy products. On the whole, our food consumption in 1930 was lower than in any year since 1917. The farmer has good reason to indorse the pleas of economists for a maintenance of our standard of living. One and one-half acres of wheat made into flour will produce the same number of calories as three or four acres devoted to milk or pork, or twelve acres devoted to beef. It is clear enough why farmers ought to pray for high wages and for a return to meat and milk on the scale that prevailed before 1925....Science has played its part in bringing about the change. Since the war the average cow yields about 1,000 pounds more milk annually--an increase of 25 per cent. Nor does she need correspondingly more feed, as might be supposed. Doctor Baker believes that the effect of scientific feeding is almost as great as that attributed to the use of the tractor and automobile, which have together released between twenty and twenty-five million acres once given over to raising forage crops for horses and mules. The net result is a more expensive diet for an increasing number of people from a practically stationary acreage of crop land. Because of the rapid decline in the birthrate and the probability that the population will be nearly stationary in thirty or forty years--unless the bars to immigration are let down--we shall hardly need more farm land for decades to come."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 15.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $7.25 to $9; cows, good and choice $5 to $6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $7 to $8.50; vealers, good and choice $8 to $9.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $7 to $8.25. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $6.30 to $7; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $7.10 to $7.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $7.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8.50 to $9.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 81 1/8¢ to 84 1/8¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 83 1/4¢; St. Louis 80¢ to 81¢; Kansas City 73 1/2¢ to 74 1/2¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 73 1/2¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 47 1/2¢ to 48 1/2¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 57¢ to 57 1/2¢; Minneapolis 51¢ to 53¢; St. Louis 56 1/2¢ to 57¢; Kansas City 50¢ to 51 1/2¢; No.3 white oats, Minneapolis 25 3/4¢ to 26 1/4¢; St. Louis 29 3/4¢; Kansas City 30 1/2¢ to 31¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 12 points to 8.80¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.17¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 9 points to 9.39¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 13 points to 9.42¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes ranged $3.75-$4.50 per double-head barrel in the East; $2.50 f.o.b. Hastings. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-$1.75 per 100 pounds in the Middle West; $1.10 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.65-$2 in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $1.25-$1.35 carlot sales in Chicago; 85¢-$1 f.o.b. Stevens Point. South Carolina Pointed type cabbage 90¢-$1.25 per 1½-bushel hamper in terminal markets. Mississippi Pointed type $1.50-$1.65 per barrel crate in city markets; 75¢ f.o.b. Crystal Springs. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $4.50-$7 per standard 45's in city markets; $2.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Louisiana Klondike strawberries 8¢-10¢ per pint in the East; $1.40-$1.60 per 24-pint crate f.o.b. at Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes $5-$5.50 per 32-quart crate in Pittsburgh; $2.50-$4.25 f.o.b. Chadbourn. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions, commercials, $1-$1.35 per standard crate in consuming centers; 50-pound sacks 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Laredo. New York Baldwin apples $6 per barrel in New York City; bushel tubs $2 f.o.b. Rochester.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24½¢; 91 score, 24¢; 90 score, 23½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13½ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLI, No. 42 Section 1 May 19, 1931.

FEDERAL ECONOMY PLANS

The Associated Press to-day reports: "Expenditures of three of the largest governmental departments--Treasury, Post Office and Agriculture--came under scrutiny yesterday with a view to falling in line with President Hoover's economy program. Officials from one of the three departments will be summoned to the Rapidan camp next week-end to discuss with President Hoover ways and means of effecting savings...."

GOVERNMENT SALARY CONDITIONS

The Washington Post to-day says: "Faced not only with a deficit at the end of the current fiscal year but with another at the end of the next and possibly the year after, the administration has determined to carry on indefinitely its policy of refusing any pay increases to Government employees. The policy adopted for the current fiscal year against granting any salary increases within grades will be carried forward into the next fiscal year, which begins July 1...."

LONDON WHEAT CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to-day says: "So far as official utterances are concerned, Russia's prospective policy is still an unknown quantity at the international conference of eleven wheat-exporting countries, which held its opening session in London yesterday under the presidency of C. Howard Ferguson, Canadian High Commissioner in London, and with Samuel R. McKelvie of the United States Federal Farm Board as chairman of the standing committee."

A second dispatch says: "Discussing the agricultural situation in an exclusive interview yesterday, Isidore Lubimov, Soviet Deputy Commissar of Trade and head of the Russian delegation at the wheat conference at London, said: 'The position of the Soviet Government in connection with the agricultural crisis and the proposals to regulate the grain market was explained by the delegates of the Soviet Government at the international agrarian conference held in Rome in April of this year. It was there pointed out that the Soviet Government does not experience a crisis and continues to develop her industry and agriculture in accordance with the five-year plan....'"

CHICAGO FARM MEETING

A Chicago dispatch to-day says: "A committee to investigate the possibilities of coordinating the efforts of cooperative agricultural organizations was appointed yesterday at a conference of farm leaders. The meeting was called in an effort to start an intensive drive to organize farmers, and before the committee had retired to discuss the problem and attempt to form definite plans, executives representing grain, livestock, cotton, wool, dairy, finance and farm publications had expressed themselves as favoring the plan. 'Tell the world what organized agriculture wants,' E. A. O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation and chairman of yesterday' conference, told the committee members. The conference had previously adopted informally the slogan, 'You can't save agriculture in sections,' suggested by President C. E. Huff, of the Farmers National Grain Corporation, in a speech in which he said he hoped the conference would achieve its purpose."

Section 2

British Land Nationalization

Financial Chronicle for May 16 says: "Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Snowden, has proposed, in the House of Commons, a 'land tax', intimating, it is alleged, that this is a first step toward 'nationalization of land.'...Perhaps, as a matter of pure economics, no one need care very much if the old landed estates in the pent countries of the world should pass from their hereditary titles into the common use of the common people. Feudalism is dead, and the kings are passing. But the 'nationalization of land' in its broad sense, is a momentous measure in a rapidly changing world. No one can say where this change will end. The old 'fief' is far from the modern farm in new countries, and it is true that in small governments, thickly populated, especially in 'tight little islands,' standing room is at a premium. Land is increasing in nominal or money value much faster than in its productive value. The question of utility becomes basic. There are vast stretches in new continents open to settlement, but restrictive immigration laws often stand in the way. The poor man can not move from territory to territory at his own will. He is born to the realm and can not escape. His life is worth more than the wild life in the game preserve. He will not always starve content by the side of rich lands that might provide him home and sustenance. But when 'confiscation' is proposed by means of taxation, the limitation is not apparent and oppression may ensue....Suppose a tax of a 'penny in the pound' value tends to force the sale and cultivation of idle lands, who will buy and till them? Not the man who tries to hold his farm down to the exemption value. And if the tax is laid upon the increased acreage, in size and value, it at once becomes a burden on the energy and accumulation of the real farmer. We can see little rationality in the plan. It has never appealed to existent farms and farmers. The 'dukes' may be excrescences and the lands may be needed for cultivation for needed foodstuffs, but we fail to discover how a new land tax will benefit agriculture...."

Business Conditions

An editorial in The Business Week for May 20, says: "At the close of the great national and international business conferences, business sentiment here and abroad seems to have assumed an ultramarine shade of pessimism....This is somewhat surprising, for while the outcome of the conferences was disappointing to those who looked for decisive leadership, the surface signs of the business situation have given no ground for added gloom, and a fundamentally favorable force has appeared in the picture in the form of persistent and powerful Federal Reserve pressure for credit expansion....Our index is holding its level with no indication of impending decline due to more than seasonal changes....The seasonal slackening of steel activity seems slightly slower, with moderately improving prospects of automotive demand. Building permit figures reflect some improvement in residential construction....Check payments and currency circulation suggest some increase in money turnover. Department store results for April indicate increased retail activity....Crop prospects are encouraging, and wheat is surprisingly stable....The full effect of Federal Reserve effort to check chronic credit contraction and overcome commercial bank inertia and conservatism will not be seen for several months, but its pugnacious policy is pointed in the right direction and by every precedent should speed recovery. Increasing stability in stocks and strength in bonds are already reassuring results."

Farm Work Hours

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for May 16 says: "A recent Wisconsin study indicates that Wisconsin farmers work sixty-six hours a week in the summer time and sixty-one hours a week in the winter time. In spite of the fact that much new machinery has been introduced in recent years, farmers continue to work as long hours as they used to. ...As long as farming is a mode of life rather than a business, it is to be expected that most farmers will continue to work over sixty hours a week. Probably the extra hour or two a day which farmers work is not such a hardship when we consider that they are their own bosses and can work in their own way. The trouble begins, however, when the farmer finds that he is getting pay for his work of about 20 cents an hour as compared with 50 cents an hour for the laboring man in the city. That is what makes it hard to hold the brighter, more energetic farm boys at home. Incidentally, this is one of the explanations of the present very large volume of unemployment in the cities. When the farmer contemplates the unemployment situation, he can easily reach the conclusion that it is better to work ten hours a day for 20 cents an hour and have something to eat than it is to have no work at all and go hungry."

Fruit Juice Sterilization

R. L. Tracy, jr., Fruit Products Laboratory, University of California, writing on "Sterilization of Fruit Juice by Electricity" in The Fruit Products Journal for May, says: "During the last fifteen years, numerous reports have been made upon the use of electricity for pasteurizing milk, but little attention seems to have been given to its use in sterilizing fruit juices. Regardless of the lack of scientific as well as practical information, however, patented processes for this purpose have rapidly come upon the market. Usually these processes utilize electrical energy in the form of alternating or direct current, X-rays or ultra-violet light or two or more of these combined. The efficiency of a process, once in practical operation, is generally secret, consequently, very little information is commonly known in the practical field of electrical sterilization of fruit juices....Since the most favorable results in milk sterilization have been obtained by alternating current, at least up to the present time, and because this form of electrical energy is most commonly utilized by the patented processes on the market, this laboratory has undertaken studies to determine, if possible, what value alternating current may have in sterilizing fruit juices. The generous financial aid of the California Committee on the Relation of Electricity to Agriculture has made this work possible during the last year....Experiments have been described which indicate that very probably electricity possesses germicidal properties, and that this property is no doubt a factor in sterilization by electricity. It has been shown also that electricity is an effective means for pasteurization of fruit juices when the lethal temperature of the contaminating organisms is maintained."

Virgin Islands

The May midmonthly Survey contains an article on the Virgin Islands, by Joanna C. Colcord. This says in part: "...The industry and agriculture of the Islands offer perplexing problems to any administration. The evils of a one-crop system could not be better displayed. Sugar, formerly grown on all of the larger islands in the group--St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John--is now produced only on

St. Croix; and few other commercial crops are produced elsewhere in the group. St. Thomas, a famous free port for centuries, has been since long before the American occupation, parasitic on its fine harbor, with the fueling, repair, and provision of ships its only industries of importance; while St. John has practically 'gone back to bush,' its only noteworthy commercial product being bay-oil for the bay-rum manufacturers of St. Thomas. The bay-rum industry, which is in the hands of a very few people, complains bitterly that prohibition, extended to the Virgin Islands along with our other possessions, has interfered with this industry's development. It is hard to see the justification for this claim, since the production of industrial alcohol, the basis of bay rum, has steadily increased in the Islands....The basic factor, however, that governs prosperity or bankruptcy in the Islands, is the price of sugar. When we took them over, sugar was high--at one time raw sugar brought 23 cents a pound, and able-bodied field hands both men and women earned a dollar a day. Now, with the bottom out of the sugar-cane industry and prices down to a few cents a pound, the wage has dropped to 40 cents a day on the few plantations still being worked and the labor unions are powerless to win back the ground that they have lost. Bethlehem, the great modern sugar-mill of the West India Sugar Company on St. Croix, most of whose stockholders are in Denmark, has been closed for nearly a year and but one mill is operating in the Islands. The sugar estates, held in the possession of a handful of white planters, are mostly lying idle, and the Red Cross is said to be feeding daily upwards of 2,500 of the laborers and their families. The population of the Islands, which was 26,000 in 1917, has now dropped to 22,000, chiefly through emigration to the United States. In view of what has happened to the sugar markets of the world, it is difficult to see how the entire burden of blame can be laid at the door either of the Government, the planters or the workers, for the parlous condition in which the Islands now find themselves....Into this well-nigh desperate situation has just ventured a courageous man with the instincts if not the training of a social worker....With Governor Pearson has gone a small corps of Americans with special skills to contribute, among them a supervisor of handicrafts to develop native home industries; and a director of commerce to foster native home industries; and purchasing and to introduce improvements in the machines and processes of island industries. Agricultural instruction will be developed and an effort made to substitute homegrown foodstuffs for the imported cornmeal which, in the form of 'fungi' (a thick mush like the Italian polenta), has been the staple diet since the days of slavery....In order to further diversified agriculture, the people must be given access to the land, and a portion of an appropriation of $141,000 included in the last naval budget for this purpose but not expended, will be available to buy up disused sugar-land and turn it into 'provision-grounds.' The country schools are to be developed as community centers with instruction in gardening, public health and household management...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 18.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $7 to $9; cows, good and choice $5 to $6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $8.25; vealers, good and choice $8 to $9.50; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $7 to $8. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $6.60; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $7; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $7 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8 to $8.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 79 7/8¢ to 82 7/8¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 81¢ to 81½¢ Kansas City 73½¢ to 74½¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 73¢ to 73½¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 48¢ to 49¢; Chicago 53¼ to 55½¢; Kansas City 45¢ to 46½¢; No.3 yellow, Minneapolis 50¢ to 52¢; Chicago 55¼¢ to 56¢; St. Louis 55¢ to 55¼¢; Kansas City 48¢ to 49½¢; No.3 white oats, Minneapolis 24¾ to 25¼¢; Chicago 27¾¢; St. Louis 28¢; Kansas City 30¢ to 30½¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes ranged $3.25-$4.50 per double-head barrel in eastern cities. Alabama, Louisiana and Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs brought $1.60-$1.75 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; few $1.10-$1.20 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.50-$1.90 in the East. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $1.20-$1.30 carlot sales in Chicago; 85¢-$1 f.o.b. Stevens Point. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $4.25-$5.50 per standard 45's in city markets; $1.75-$1.85 f.o.b. Brawley. North Carolina Missionary and Klondike strawberries ranged 11¢-20¢ per quart in eastern cities; auction sales; 32-quart crates $3.50-$5.50 f.o.b. Chadbourn. Louisiana Klondikes $2-$2.50 per 24-pint crate in a few cities; auction sales $1.62½-$1.87½ f.o.b. at Hammond. New York Baldwin apples, No.1, 2½ inches up, brought $2.25 per bushel basket in New York City. New York McIntosh $2.50-$2.75 in that market.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 23 points to 8.49¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.01¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 25 points to 9.01¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 24 points to 9.07¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¢; 91 score, 22¾¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XLI, No. 43 Section 1 May 20, 1931.

LONDON WHEAT CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to-day says: "The international conference in London of the world's eleven leading wheat-exporting countries learned yesterday the United States Government's attitude in the present grain surplus crisis, as expressed in a long speech by Samuel R. McKelvie, head of the American delegation. Definite proposals for ending the crisis by establishing an international export wheat pool also were laid before the conference by the Polish and Australian delegations.

"Inasmuch as Mr. McKelvie had said in an interview May 18 that the United States would not participate in an international pool under any circumstances, it may be taken for granted that the plan offered by Australia and Poland, which also has the backing of other exporting countries in Eastern Europe, will not receive American approval. Neither was there any enthusiasm for it shown by G. Howard Ferguson, chief Canadian delegate and president of the conference. Mr. Ferguson referred to the Australian proposal as something hardly official in the eyes of the conference because it had been formulated by wheat growers in Australia, telegraphed to the delegates in London and given publicity....

"The most specific proposal in Mr. McKelvie's speech was that all countries curtail production, but he made no suggestion that that be accomplished by joint international action or agreement. He left it to be inferred that he thought each country ought to undertake it as an entirely voluntary independent policy for its own good as well as for the world's good. He also repeated his assurance of Monday that the United States would do no dumping....

"The Polish proposal...was tangible, no matter how unsound or unworkable it may be, or how impossible from the American viewpoint. Rumania, Belgaria and Yugoslavia were in accord with it. Hungary will offer a plan of its own, differing in some details from Poland's, but the same in principle, so that international machinery for controlling wheat exports of the whole world may be considered as a common policy for all countries of Eastern Europe. Poland proposes first that the nations represented at the London conference shall agree for 1931 and 1932 to export both wheat and flour only within limits to be determined. Second, to bring this about they would form an international wheat organization in which each country in the conference would have membership and with a central office in London. Thirdly, the Poles propose that the conference itself fix the quota which each country would be allowed to export this year and next before turning the administration of the plan over to the proposed international organization...."

DOAK FORMS UNEMPLOYMENT BOARD

Secretary Doak announced yesterday the appointment of a committee to undertake for the first time in the United States a study of technological unemployment, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The unemployment situation, according to Government advices, is showing little improvement. Reports from thirty cities were made public to-day by Fred C. Croxton, acting chairman of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment. The committee on technological unemployment will meet for the first time at the Department of Labor to-day to plan its study, which is to be made for the recently reorganized United States Employment Service...."

Section 2

British Land Bill

An editorial in The Field (London) for May 9 says: "As those of us who remembered Mr. Lloyd George's efforts with Form IV. expected, the rumor that agricultural land would be exempted from taxation under Mr. Snowden's land tax scheme turned out to be untrue. Agricultural land that has also a higher value if regarded from a developer's point of view, is to be taxed on the difference between purely agricultural value, whatever that may actually be, and building value, whatever that may be supposed to be. At least, that is Mr. Snowden's proposal. And though burial grounds are to be exempt, playing fields are to be taxed, and so are allotments owned by private individuals in the neighborhood of towns. This is clearly retrograde and against the interests of the community. It is also crude and ill-considered. Mr. Snowden is evidently in a hurry, and thinks more of getting off his gibes at dukes than genuine consideration of the needs of the small cultivator...."

British Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald said in a letter to a Labor candidate May 18: "If this country is to escape the turmoils through which others have gone, the menacing challenge of the House of Lords must be faced and the mass of the electors must be assured that representative democracy is not a combination of words but an effective power." In the course of the letter Mr. MacDonald refers specifically to the virtual rejection by the upper House of the Government's agricultural land utilization bill, which, in the opinion of many commentators, has made relations between the House of Lords and a majority in the House of Commons more bitter than they have been for many years. The situation has brought well within the bounds of possibility that old election issue, "The peers against the people." (London dispatch, May 19

Building Increase

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for May 19 says: "Building permits in 215 leading cities for April amounted to $151,207,000 against $142,108,000 in March and $180,000,000 in April, 1930, according to Bradstreet's reports. Although the total is less than a year ago, some encouragement is to be found in the fact that better than seasonal gains are being made this year. Building is one of the most reliable indices of business, and it is to be noted that it was one of the first to give warning of the approach of a depression in 1929. Therefore, when it tells of a slight improvement, as it does now, it is entitled to be heard with respect. The index tells that some sections even lost ground in the month, but taking the country as a whole there is an increase of 6.4 per cent and, in its turn, March was 48.3 per cent above February. For the four months of this present year, permits in New York City amounted to $173,000,000 compared with $130,000,000 a year ago, an increase of 33 per cent. For April alone the amount was $58,000,000 compared with $52,000,000 in March of this year and $39,000,000 in April, 1929. Present building is largely of family habitations, which do not afford as large a market for steel as do large office buildings. But if they do not require as much steel, at least they call for a variety of materials and for labor. While all of the different sections excepting the Middle Atlantic group are still behind in totals for the first four months of the year in comparison with a year ago, all but the Central Western and Pacific groups have made advances in April over March running from 22.3 per cent to 91.2. The southern group has the

largest increase, and among the cities, New Orleans shows the largest percentage gain. The total for all cities shows a gain for the month that is considerably better than seasonal. That is the important fact. And while the figures for one month can not be taken as proof that the tide has turned in building, it is of importance to note that since February the index has been pointing upwards."

Cooperative Association Survey

The Federal Farm Board makes public to-day a preliminary report summarizing facts revealed in a survey of local and regional cooperative associations in the twelve Northeastern States. This survey, recently completed, was conducted jointly by the Federal Farm Board and State agricultural colleges, experiment stations, extension services and departments of agriculture. An analysis is being made of the facts concerning each commodity produced and sold cooperatively in the Northeastern States and will be announced later by the Farm Board. The detailed results of the survey conducted in each of the twelve States will be published by the various agricultural colleges. The board says: "A recently completed survey conducted by the Federal Farm Board and various State agricultural agencies shows that a large volume of business is handled by farmer-owned and controlled cooperative associations in the twelve Northeastern States. There are 603 local and regional cooperative associations in that region which includes the following States: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and West Virginia. In 1929 these associations had a farmer membership totaling 265,296 with a business aggregating $329,479,485. They handled farm products totaling $242,112,011 and farm supplies amounting to $87,367,474. The crops handled by these associations represent a long list of farm commodities including dairy products, poultry and eggs, fruits and vegetables, grains, livestock, and wool. The survey indicates that the producers of a few commodities are as well organized in the Northeastern States as they are in any other part of the country. This is particularly true among cooperatives handling dairy products, cranberries and mushrooms. In a few cases farmers in this region are taking advantage of the national sales agencies that have been formed within the last two years by cooperatives with the aid of the Farm Board. At least ten farm products grown in the Northeastern States can now be marketed through national, farmer-owned and controlled sales agencies. These products include wool, cattle, hogs, sheep, wheat, oats, corn, rye, barley, and buckwheat. The survey also shows that most of the cooperatives in these twelve States have only reached the local stage. Organizations that market dairy products, grapes and apples have reached the regional stage. However, all of the regionals in that section are small excepting the dairy cooperatives which are among the largest in the country. Of the 603 associations, 180 are engaged in the handling of farm crops only, 108 deal in farm crops and also sell supplies to farmers and 315 handle supplies only...."

International Bank Deposits

A Basle, Switzerland, dispatch May 19 says: "Directors of the World Bank for International Settlements, meeting yesterday, were cheered to learn that the deposits of the 'baby' institution now exceed $400,000,000. The figure was not made public, but it was confirmed for the Associated Press by a high official of the bank. This sum is far in

excess of the expectations, and it clearly shows, according to the belief at Basle, that the World Bank is becoming something more than a mere depository for the central banks of various nations, so that even if the reparations payments should later be put on some other basis, or cease entirely, the bank would still be certain to continue to function...."

A second dispatch says: "The board of directors of the Bank for International Settlements May 18 made one of the most significant decisions of its brief history when it informed the governor of the Austrian State Bank that it was prepared to arrange a 100,000,000-schilling ($14,000,000) credit to assist the country in its present financial crisis...."

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for May 16 says: "Business has been generally slow at the eastern seaboard in wool. Some demand is present for fine and half-blood wools at prices which show little change for the week. Medium wools are rather quiet and sometimes easier. Scoureds have been slow and barely firm. The manufacturers are generally well employed on old contracts which will probably last until about July 1. For the most part they are well covered against their needs, however. In the West the situation still is unsettled and buyers are in some sections lowering their bids. No snap is noted in the movement of the new clip. Foreign markets are a bit easier. London is figured about 5 per cent under the opening level of prices."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

George Eastman, writing at length on "Problems of Calendar Improvement" in Scientific American for June, says in part: "Dr. Charles F. Marvin, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, and, I believe, our foremost American authority on the calendar, has suggested a time and way for putting a fixed calendar into effect which is of most interesting significance to Christianity."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 19.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $7 to $9; cows, good and choice $5 to $6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $8.25; vealers, good and choice $8.25 to $9.75; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $7 to $7.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $6.10 to $6.65; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $7; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $6.90 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8 to $8.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 79¼ to 82¼¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 81¢ to 81½¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 83¢; Kansas City 73¢ to 73½¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 56¢; Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 46¢ to 48¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 56¼¢; Minneapolis 51¢ to 53¢; St. Louis 56½¢; Kansas City 49¢ to 50½¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 28½¢; Minneapolis 25¢ to 25½¢; St. Louis 29¢; Kansas City 30¢ to 30½¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes brought $3.25-$3.50 per double-head barrel in the East. Alabama, Louisiana and Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-$1.75 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; mostly $1.10 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains ranged $1.50-$1.90 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $1.20-$1.30 carlot sales in Chicago; few 85¢-90¢ f.o.b. Stevens Point. Louisiana Klondike strawberries $1.75-$2.50 per 24-pint crate in a few cities; auction sales $1.45-$1.67½ f.o.b. at Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes and Missionarys, 32-quart crates, 11¢-23¢ per quart in city markets; 32-quart crates $2-$5 f.o.b. Chadbourn. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $4-$4.75 per standard 45's in consuming centers; mostly $1.75 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-$1.25 per standard crate in city markets; 50-pounds 75¢ f.o.b. Coastal Bend Section. New York Baldwin apples, 2½ inches up, $6-$6.50 per barrel in New York City; Baldwins in bushel baskets $2 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 8 points to 8.41¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.09¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 8.94¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 9¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¢; 91 score, 22¾¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 44 Section 1 May 21, 1931.

LONDON WHEAT CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to-day says: "Delegates from ten of the eleven wheat-exporting countries now in conference in London in an effort to avert disaster in the world's grain market expressed approval at yesterday's session of the principles involved in the Polish proposals for an international wheat organization authorized to control the limit of exports of each country by means of a quota system. The single dissenting country was the United States of America. Her refusal to line up with the other grain States was in harmony with the statement made by the chief American delegate, Samuel R. McKelvie, on Monday, to the effect that the United States would not under any circumstances participate in an international pool.

"The Polish plan, by which the whole world's business of wheat export would be controlled by an international body with headquarters in London, calls for what the American delegation thinks may be described as a pool of the aggregate surplus of exportable crops of all participating countries on the basis of which the international organization would determine how much each country might sell abroad....

"In reply to Mr. McKelvie's insistence that all countries should reduce acreage and production, the delegates of the other countries say that such reduction would result automatically if each country entered into an international agreement to limit its exports, at least until the balance of demand and supply was adjusted. The Soviet delegation, although making no definite proposals of its own, presented a statement to the conference yesterday accepting in principle the Polish plan. The Russians also declared their country would not limit grain acreage, but on the contrary the Five-Year Plan demands further development of wheat production, at least up to the point where it was before the war, when Russia furnished almost a third of the wheat exported into the world market...."

SPAIN'S AGRARIAN PROGRAM

A Madrid (A.P.) dispatch May 20 says: "The Spanish Government May 19 promulgated the new agrarian program which seeks to bring about cultivation of large estates by cooperative farming societies. The project will have to be approved by the National Assembly and many of its details remain to be worked out. Under the scheme there will be no actual confiscation of land. The government declares the new program is necessitated by a crisis now facing Spanish agriculture and by unemployment. It does not affect all large land holdings. The government intends to apply it first to big tracts owned by municipalities or the central government and to those large uncultivated estates whose owners wish to lease their land. The cooperative working societies would lease the land from the government and cultivate it as a community project...."

CUBAN SUGAR EXPORT

A Havana dispatch May 20 says: "Cuba will reduce her 1931 sugar export to the United States by 200,000 tons, the amount to form a part of Cuba's total segregation of 1,500,000 tons, according to the Chadbourne sugar stabilizing plan, El Pais says. American markets, the paper adds, have been unable to absorb Cuba's monthly sugar quota during the four first months of 1931...."

Section 2

Building

There was an increase of 6.2 per cent in the amount of building permits according to reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor from 340 identical cities having a population of 25,000 or over during the month of April, 1931, as compared with March, 1931. There was an increase of 19.5 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings, but a decrease of 3.3 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings. The estimated cost of the total building operations for which permits were issued during the month of April in these 340 cities totaled $161,709,-271. The new buildings for which permits were issued in these cities during the month of April provided for 14,211 family dwelling units. This is an increase of 21.0 per cent in the number of family dwelling units as compared with the month of March. More family dwelling units were provided during April, 1931, than for any month during 1930. Comparing permits issued in 292 identical cities in April, 1931, and April, 1930, there was a decrease of 14.7 per cent in total construction, a decrease of 6.7 per cent in the estimated cost of new residential buildings, and a decrease of 18.1 per cent in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings. The number of family dwelling units provided increased 5.8 per cent, comparing April, 1931, permits with April, 1930, permits.

Business Cycles

S. W. McClure, writing in National Wool Grower for May, says: "...To my mind cycles are necessary and can never be avoided...As long as a profit can be made from business, business will expand. Our power to create goods is fully ten times our power to consume them. Let us illustrate this with sheep. We produce in the entire world 2,700,000,-000 pounds of clothing wool. We have in the United States 6,300,000 farms. If we had 53 sheep on each farm producing an average of eight pounds of wool, we would produce as much wool as is now produced in the entire world. Henry Ford could double his production of cars. The United States Steel Company could double its production. In fact, the only limit to production of most things is the ability to make a profit from their production. With the development of machine operation, consumption can never keep pace with production. If we deny the necessity for a down cycle, then we must admit that business can be made permanently profitable regardless of the amount of goods produced. Profit in an open market means increased production. Cycles are not restricted to industry. Nature herself acts in cycles. Dry years are followed by a series of wet years. Diseases, plagues, even reproduction proceeds in cycles. Business always has and always will follow a cyclical career. In 1928 and 1929 we made and sold the goods that should have been made in 1930 and 1931. We are now reaping the results."

Children and Vegetables

Laura McLaughlin, Marie Tarwater, Miriam Lowenberg, and Georgiana Koch of Iowa State College, writing on "Vegetables in the Diets of Preschool Children" in The Journal of Nutrition for May, say: "...An experiment was carried out to test further this appetite of children for raw vegetables. During two five-week periods, two small groups, numbering seven and three children respectively, were allowed at three noon meals each week to choose between raw and cooked vegetables. In preparation of a vegetable, the edible portion was cut into uniform pieces, then half was crisped in ice water and the other half

cooked until tender in just enough water to cover. Little plates with small bits of the raw and the cooked were placed on the table and the children were asked to taste both. After the large plate with the rest of the food on it was put before the child he was allowed to choose the vegetable wanted. Out of 68 choices the raw was taken 55 times. Raw cabbage was taken 14 out of 15 times, raw carrots 18 in 22 times, raw cauliflower 7 in 12 times, raw celery 4 in 6 times and raw turnips 12 in 13 times. Whether due to more pleasing flavor or to crispness, raw vegetables were much better liked than cooked ones whether they were served in the form of sticks, cubes, large irregular pieces or were shredded or ground. In general, if they were cut so that they were readily picked up in the fingers they were eaten first, otherwise second or third among the foods served. The principal objection to raw vegetables has been due to their fiber, a difficulty in masticating and an indication of indigestibility. The child seems to enjoy chewing crisp food. Perhaps we are passing through the period of caution with raw vegetables; many children are eating them with apparently great desire and without apparent harm, when care is taken to serve tender products only...."

Labor Turnover

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor presents labor turnover rates for manufacturing as a whole and for 10 separate manufacturing industries. The all industry turnover rates are made up from representative establishments in 75 industries employing approximately 1,250,000 people. The total separation rate for industry as a whole was 3.41, and the accession was 3.06. The highest accession rate, 8.68, was shown in the brick industry. Iron and steel had the lowest accession rate, 1.69. Boots and shoes had the highest quit rate of any of the 10 industries, for which separate rates are shown. The quit rate for the boot and shoe industry was 1.97. The lowest quit rate, .86, was shown by the brick industry. The brick industry had the highest discharge rate, .61. Men's clothing with .12 had the lowest discharge rate. The saw mill industry had the highest lay-off rate, 7.17. The lowest lay-off rate, 1.53, was shown in the boot and shoe industry.

Magee on Reserve Board

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for May 16 says: "The appointment of Wayland Magee, prominent farmer and farm organization official of Douglas County, to membership on the Federal Reserve Board representing the 10th district, should be gratifying to agricultural interests in this section. President Hoover announced the selection of Mr. Magee to fill the post made vacant by the death of Edward H. Cunningham, of Iowa. He is the farm representative on the board, and is thoroughly familiar with agricultural conditions of the Middle West. The financial policy of our country is of vital importance to the welfare of agriculture. Mr. Magee's appointment means that farming interests will have a courageous and vigorous champion on the Federal Reserve Board. The appointment is a well deserved honor to Mr. Magee's creditable record as a farmer and as an active worker in Nebraska agricultural organizations."

Poultry Industry

An editorial in The Magazine of Wall Street for May 16, entitled "Consider the Hen Example," says: "There are some luminous spots in trade news. For instance, the American poultry industry scored an export record in 1930 and ran up its first favorable foreign trade balance since 1927. Which shows that there is always business at a price. If you put your trust in percentages marvel at the increase of 100,000 per cent in egg exports to Germany! Hens and their products in the United States were on a price level with those of other poultry-exporting countries, and the American hen laid a composite golden egg for the country. Hen products were cheap for buyers, as well as sellers. If cheap wheat were as quickly turnable into cheap bread as cheap chickens into cheap meat that troublesome world surplus would not last long. This is a cheap era and the quicker everything lines up on the cheap basis the quicker will business complete its readjustments and open the throttle for a plunge forward. We can't go forward half cheap and half dear."

Wool Industry

An editorial in National Wool Grower for May says: "The textile industry continues to be pointed out by financial journals as having shown a larger degree of improvement than any other industry. It was, of course, expected that textiles would be the first to emerge from the low period. They led the decline and should be in the advance on the return, but they are only part way back, and other commodities lag in a most aggravating fashion. Reports of increase in consumption of wool are printed in this issue of the Wool Grower. They are not pronounced, but are very significant and point in the right direction. There is danger of reaching wrong conclusions by considering our present rate of wool consumption. The amount used for clothing purposes last year was 365 million pounds, twenty per cent less than in 1927 when rayon and silk were in their extreme of fashion and popularity. It does not seem unreasonable to regard the 1927 consumption as a fair measure of requirements when conditions have reached their new normal. London wool prices showed a small decline late in April equal to about one-fourth of their advance in March. This advance had not been reflected in Boston, although United States mill conditions are better than in Europe. The failure of Boston prices to show any part of the London advance must be charged to sales made at low figures by growers in the West. Dealers were able to secure considerable amount of wool on the basis of prices as they were before the foreign advance. Holders of old wools can not persuade manufacturers to pay world prices when it is indicated that growers are agreeable to selling without regard to changes in prices...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 20.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $8.75; cows, good and choice $5 to $6; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $8; vealers, good and choice $7.75 to $9.25; feeder and stocke cattle, steers, good and choice $7 to $7.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $6.15 to $6.75; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.80 to $7.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $7. (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $7.85 to $8.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 80 3/8¢ to 82 3/8¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 83¢; St.Louis 81¢ to 81½¢; Kansas City 73½¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 83¼¢ to 83½¢; Kansas City 73¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 55½ to 56¢; Minneapolis 49¢ to 50¢; Kansas City 47¢ to 48½¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 55¾ to 57¼¢; Minneapolis 52¢ to 54¢; St. Louis 56¢; Kansas City 48½ to 50½¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 28¢; Minneapolis 25¼ to 25¾¢; St. Louis 28¾¢; Kansas City 30½¢.

Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes ranged $3.50-$4.25 per double-head barrel in the East. Alabama, Louisiana and Texas sacked Bliss Triumphs brought $1.60-$1.75 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; mostly $1.10 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.50-$1.90 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $1.15-$1.25 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly $1.10 f.o.b. Stevens Point. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-$1.25 per standard crate in consuming centers; 50-pound sacks 60¢-75¢ f.o.b. Crystal City. Louisiana Klondike strawberries $2-$2.50 per 24-pint crate in city markets; auction sales $1.50-$1.77½ f.o.b. Hammond. North Carolina Missionarys and Klondikes 10¢-20¢ per quart in eastern cities; 32-quart crates $1.25-$4.80 fob suction sales at Chadbourn. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $3.75-$4.75 per standard 45's in terminal markets; $1.60-$1.75 f.o.b. Brawley New York Baldwin apples, No.1, 2½ inches up, brought $5.75-$6.50 per barrel in New York City; bushel tubs best $2 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 21 points to 8.62¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.13¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 20 points to 9.14¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 22 points to 9.22¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24¢; 91 score, 23½¢; 90 score, 23¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLI, No. 45 Section 1 May 22, 1931.

LONDON WHEAT CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to-day says: "The full text of the Soviet proposals presented to the London conference of wheat exporting countries, as revealed yesterday, virtually brings to a futile finish the efforts of the delegates of eleven nations to devise an international scheme for orderly, even if not profitable, marketing of the world's grain surplus. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that Russia asks for an international agreement which would permit her to go on dumping with the blessing of her competitors instead of their curses. She asks a quota allotment which would enable her to export far more than any other country with no price restriction whatever to prevent her underselling in the world market other exporting countries in all of which the cost of agricultural production is far greater than in Russia. That is what she intends to do anyhow, with or without an international agreement. She says so.

"These are the general reasons why none of the other countries represented here can touch the Soviet plan. In addition, there are special reasons why Canada and Australia could not agree without endangering the future of their imperial trade arrangements with Great Britain....

"As forecast yesterday by The New York Times, Russia rejects completely the suggestion of S. R. McKelvie, head of the American delegation, that each country restrict production. On the contrary, the Soviet delegates announce their country is going to have 105,000,000 acres of wheat this year and expects a crop of 36,500,000 tons, or 7,000,000 tons more than last year. It is true, as previously reported, that Russia accepts the Polish plan for an international export quota system, but without the price regulating device which is an integral part of the Polish proposals...."

GIFFORD URGES DEFENSE BOARD

The press to-day says: "Reduction of excess profits in war time by taxation instead of by the Baruch plan for 'freezing' all profits, and organization of a peace-time council of national defense were urged upon the War Policies Commission at Washington yesterday by Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone and Tegegraph Company. He said that there was already a statute which permitted the formation of such a council, composed of six Cabinet officers and seven civilians, which could meet under the chairmanship of the Secretary of War to study advance plans...."

RAILWAY RATES

The New York Times to-day says: "Meeting at their most important conference on rates in a decade, the heads of the eastern railroads decided yesterday to petition the Interstate Commerce Commission to return reduced freight rates 'to a level which will restore the credit and the service of the carriers.' The executives took this action at a time when railroad revenues had dropped to their lowest levels since 1921 to the accompaniment of reduced dividends and, in some cases, net deficits....The resolution embodying the decision to appeal to the Interstate Commerce Commission was adopted unanimously after it had been put before the meeting by L. F. Loree, president of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad and chairman of the conference...."

Section 2

Business Conditions

Manufacturers Record for May 21 says: "Government forecasts indicate that more diversified crops will be produced this year and at less expense than for many years. It is expected that in the next few months there will be realized from farm products at least $12,000,000,000 of new wealth to be turned into the channels of trade, stimulating all lines of business. Industry and agriculture generally are on a sounder basis and in a position to realize on economies effected in their operations. One of the lessons learned during the depression is that distribution and marketing are equal in importance to volume of production in our highly industrialized civilization. Output controlled in relation to a demand properly stimulated by constant and intelligent sales effort is a key to the solution of existing conditions. Overproduction has brought satiety and clogged the flow of trade....Signs appear to be pointing to an end of the depression. There has been a noticeable increase in building permits in a number of southern cities for the month of April. The total value of construction and engineering contracts awarded in April in the South shows a considerable advance over preceding months and over April a year ago...."

Cornstalk Lumber

An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill.) for May 13 says: "Although the making of paper from cornstalks has been slowed down after an enthusiastic start, it seems that no cessation is seen in the efforts of scientists and inventors to find new uses for that great waste material of the Corn Belt regions. A citizen of Iowa, Orland R. Sweeney, has just secured patents on a process for making synthetic lumber, using cornstalks as the chief principal raw material. He has assigned the patent rights to the Iowa State Agricultural College and that institution will continue the development of the process. The newly-patented process departs from 'standard practice' by feeding the stalks into a 'digester' as they come from the fields, whereas previously they have been shredded or reduced to small pieces before subjecting them to cooking or chemical treatment. By cooking the unmutilated stalks under pressure, it is possible to secure a product which may then be macerated to make 'a board of great strength and of highly desirable properties,' Mr. Sweeney declares. The process as patented provides for addition of a small amount of corrosive sublimate to the pulp to protect the finished board against attacks by termites or ants. Provision also is made for addition of copper sulphate or other soluble salt to prevent formation of molds when the board is in a damp place."

Economic Experiments

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June says: "One of the most hopeful signs of better times is not receiving the attention it deserves. This is a subsiding of the governmental folly and disorder that disrupted the normal flow of trade all over the world. As long as it continued there was little prospect of trade's getting back to anything like a normal basis....Others hastened to add to this economic crazy quilt. The government-abetted Stevenson Plan, beginning as a device to control the marketing of rubber and jack up the price and ending with a flooded market and ruinously low prices. The coffee valorization scheme in Brazil, which wound up in debt and revolution. Mussolini's farcical 'War of Wheat.' The grandiose ideas of bankers and the Cuban Government for putting sugar on a mass production basis, with the result

a market breakdown and sugar at an all-time low price. The list of such efforts, reading like something the Mad Hatter might have conjured up, could be extended on and on. They created a vicious circle. ~~Each new scheme for controlling production and raising or stabilizing prices invited new and crushing production.~~ Each device for stimulating production or subsidizing exports invoked new and higher trade barriers. Strange new expedients appeared, such as imposing a compulsory use of home products in Germany and France, where the flour millers were required to use a certain high percentage of native grain, reducing imports to a mere trickle. Other forms of trade interference consisted of control boards for the handling of exports or imports, as in Australia, South Africa and Norway; a Privileged Company for the Export of Agricultural Produce in Jugo-Slavia, and the payment of a subsidy in Poland to a specially endowed group known as the Polish Union of Wheat Exporters....The effects of this widespread derangement have been suffered by every country, either directly or indirectly. British exports, always a good indication of the state of world trade, last year dropped nearly a billion dollars below 1928, which might be taken as the last fairly normal year. This was naturally reflected back upon our own trade, American exports to the United Kingdom, our best overseas customer, totaling close to $150,000,000 less than in 1928. The bitter lesson of these experiences should be clear...."

European Farm Credit Scheme

A Geneva dispatch May 21 says: "A scheme designed to relieve distress of European farmers, involving organization of an international agricultural credit company which would lend money to needy growers and take as security mortgages on their farm property, was approved tonight by the Pan-European commission. Hailed as the first child of the commission's labors for the economic reconstruction of Europe, the project received the support of a majority of representatives of European members of the League of Nations, but the voice of Russia was lifted in dissent. Under the proposal an international credit company would be launched with paid-in capital of $5,000,000, and it would be authorized to borrow $5,000,000 in the open market...."

Food Prices

Retail food prices in 51 cities of the United States, as reported to the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor, showed an average decrease of about 2 per cent on April 15, 1931, when compared with March 15, 1931, and an average decrease of 18 per cent since April 15, 1930. The bureau's weighted index numbers, with average prices in 1913 as 100.0, were 151.2 for April 15, 1930, 126.4 for March 15, 1931, and 124.0 for April 15, 1931. During the month from March 15, 1931, to April 15, 1931, 34 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Butter, 6 per cent; coffee, 5 per cent; strictly fresh eggs and cornmeal, 4 per cent; plate beef, oleomargarine, cheese, bread, flour, navy beans, pork and beans, canned corn, canned peas, canned tomatoes, and bananas, 3 per cent; rib roast, chuck roast, sliced ham, fresh milk, wheat cereal, macaroni, rice, sugar, and prunes, 2 per cent; sirloin steak, round steak, sliced bacon, canned red salmon, evaporated milk, vegetable lard substitute, rolled oats, cornflakes, tea, and raisins, 1 per cent. Six articles increased: Potatoes, 4 per cent; onions, 3 per cent; hens and

oranges, 2 per cent; and pork chops, and leg of lamb, 1 per cent. Two articles, lard and cabbage, showed no change in the month. During the month from March 15, 1931, to April 15, 1931, all of the 51 cities from which prices were received showed decreases in the average cost of food.

Kansas 5-year Program

An editorial in The Kansas City Star for May 13 says: "The 5-year program fostered by the Kansas State College of Agriculture and other agencies interested in the production, transportation, marketing and processing of wheat has been completed. It has resulted in a marked increase in better methods of soil preparation, use of seed of adapted varieties, treatment of seed for prevention of disease, control of insects and selling on a basis of grade and quality. The success of this program was such that it is to be followed by another with a better rural life in the wheat belt as its ultimate goal. The new program will include a reduction of acreage of wheat, especially on sandy soils not adapted to high yields of wheat of high quality, rotation of crops with a greater use of sorghums and legumes, summer fallow to conserve moisture with continued emphasis given to soil preparation, seed selection, control of insects and diseases, all of which tend to reduce cost of production and improve the quality or market value of the wheat produced. This new program will stimulate the production of livestock and livestock products, not only because of the increased acreage devoted to coarse grains and forage crops, but through a wider use of wheat as a feed. The new program recognizes that the Great Plains area is better adapted to the production of wheat than any other crop and that it is possible to produce wheat in this area at a cost which compares favorably with any other like area in the world...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 21.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $8.50; cows, good and choice $4.75 to $5.75; heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $7.75; vealers, good and choice $7.25 to $9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $6.75 to $7.50. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $6.60; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.70 to $7; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.35 to $7 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $7.75 to $8.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 80 3/8¢ to 82 3/8¢; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 81½ to 82¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 83¢; Kansas City 73¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 48½ to 49½¢; Kansas City 47¢ to 48½¢; No.3 yellow, Minneapolis 52½¢ to 53½¢; Kansas City 48½ to 50½¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 28¢ to 29¢; Minneapolis 25¼ to 25¾¢; St. Louis 29½¢.

Best Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes jobbed at $3.50-$4.50 per barrel in terminal markets, with South Carolina stock bringing $3.25-$3.75 in a few markets. Sacked Bliss Triumphs from the Gulf States sold in Chicago carlot market at $1.60-$1.75 per 100 pounds; mostly $1.10-$1.25 at shipping points. Maine Green Mountains sold at $1.25-$2.10 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin Round Whites mostly lower at $1.10-$1.20 carlot sales in Chicago; 85¢-90¢ f.o.b. shipping points. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions mostly $1-$1.50 per standard crate in consuming centers; 85¢-90¢ cash track per 50-pound sack in Coastal Bend section of Texas. Louisiana Klondike strawberries jobbing at $2-$2.50 per 24-pint crate in city markets; auction sales averaging $1.65 f.o.b. Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes 16¢-20¢ per quart and Missionarys 10¢-13¢ per quart in terminal markets; 32-quart crates returning growers $3.50-$5.20 in Chadbourn district and $1-$3 in Wallace district. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes $3.50-$4.50 per standard 45's in city markets; $1.60-$1.65 f.o.b. Brawley. New York Baldwin apples, No.1, 2½-inches up, brought $2.25 per bushel in New York City; $2 f.o.b. shipping points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 1 point to 8.61¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.12¢. May future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 9.12¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 9.20¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 24¢; 91 score, 23½¢; 90 score, 23¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLI, No. 46 Section 1 May 23, 1931.

GRAPE LOAN ASKED OF FARM BOARD

The press of May 21 states that negotiations were begun May 20 at the Federal Farm Board for a $14,000,000 loan to the California Grape Control Board. Ralph Merritt, representing the control board, outlined its plan to Vice Chairman Teague, by which it hopes to stabilize the industry and control the heavy surplus.

ECONOMISTS STUDY FARM BOARD

The press of May 19 states that a group of farm economists is examining the policies of the Farm Board as they relate to agriculture generally. The report says: "Chairman Stone said the economists were invited by the board so that it might get a cross section of opinion from those close to the crop producer...."

BANK INTEREST RATES

Announcement of the reduction of the rediscount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City from 3½ to 3 per cent, effective to-day, was made by the Federal Reserve Board yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The banks of Atlanta, Minneapolis and San Francisco, on a 3-per-cent basis, are the only Federal Reserve Banks which have not lowered their rates according to the present program of reductions, but they are expected to cut them soon to 2½ per cent. The New York bank's rate is now 1½ per cent, the lowest figure on record. In Boston the rate is 2 per cent; in Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis, 2½ per cent, and in the other districts, 3 per cent, except Minneapolis, now at 3½ per cent."

BARNES'S TRADE REVIVAL PLAN

The press of May 21 says: "An eleven-point program for the improvement of Government, business and international relations and trade was submitted May 20 to the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks by Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the board of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The association opened its eleventh annual conference at Washington yesterday. Mr. Barnes sought to outline team play between the Government and industry. He said his recommendations are soundly based for the Government's contribution in the effort to secure stabilization and recovery from this depression. Briefly, his program suggested the following: Legislation to lift restrictions which prevent insurance companies from proposing in private contracts security against unemployment. Framers of tax laws should seek advice and take recommendations from those skilled on the subject, particularly the capital gains provision....Congress should follow the recommendation of President Hoover, organized business and other organizations in respect to joining the World Court. Reconsideration of the antitrust laws. Resurvey of the banking laws. Restudy of railroad regulation to permit the carriers to meet competition of new transportation means. Treatment of tariff as an economic and not a political issue. Respect for recommendations of responsible administrative officials as to economy in public expenditure...."

Section 2

Farming Changes

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for June says: "A man whose interests take him over a great share of western Indiana says that he has recently noticed more flocks of sheep and more gardens on farms than at any time in recent years. In other sections it has been observed that farmers who formerly bought butter are now making their own. Advices from several localities tell of a demand, on the part of tenant farmers who have lately returned from the cities, for ordinary dairy cows and laying hens. And a marked increase in the number of home gardens is reported generally over the country. All these are signs of a change in the trend of agriculture, for a while anyway. Farming is swinging back to more of a self-sustaining basis than at any time since the war. The tendency to concentrate on one or several commercial products, to the neglect of the supplementary sources of incomes and provision that the farm affords, has been checked by low prices. These have brought home a realization of how much the farm itself can contribute to the family living. In fact, that is the idea influencing many who have turned back from the cities to the farm--they feel they can make sure of a living there, at least. It is a reverting to old fundamentals, which required the farm to take care of the living first of all. But it should not be mistaken for a retrogression or decline in the standards of farm life. All it means is that the native good judgment of farm people has prompted a safer and better balanced farming policy for times like the present...."

Future Farmers

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for May 16 says: "Thoughtful people more or less familiar with the progress being made in vocational agriculture work look forward to a more aggressive, more substantial, and therefore a more prosperous agriculture in the future. Taking young men with agricultural leanings and also an ambition to secure at least a high school education, and teaching them the principles of sound agricultural and animal husbandry practice is the most forward step this Government has ever undertaken. At least, it is on par with the 4-H club work, which is under the supervision of the Extension Service. No matter whether or not these young men go back to the farm or reside in our towns and cities and engage in some other industry or profession, the fact that they have received an agricultural education will not only be of service to themselves, but to the farmers as well. One of the handicaps that agriculture labors under is the lack of understanding of its problems among bankers and other businessmen with whom farmers deal, and who, in many instances, have a controlling interest either in the land or in the crops. More businessmen familiar with agriculture and animal husbandry are needed....Every generation has its day. Some of us live on long enough to see the young people step out and ahead of us in new methods. That is what the Future Farmers of America are making ready to do. They are fitting themselves to accept their share of the responsibility which comes to every new generation."

London Wheat Conference

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for May 21 says: "How to manage the surplus wheat so as to give the producer a fair return is the main problem of the conference of representatives of wheat growers of eleven surplus countries, now in session at London. The only tangible plan thus far offered is that of the Poles, who propose an international organization to control the exports of wheat and flour from each

country within certain limits. Experience is all against such expedients. A better way would be to ascertain the cause for depression in wheat, and then seek to remove it. The plan itself is of the same family as those relating to coffee, rubber, silver, sugar, silk, nitrates and some other commodities. All of those fallacies have exploded and left the producers in far worse situation than they were in before the plans were adopted. The international wheat producers represented in this conference are only one of the two parties to the question. If all united, which is improbable, they might be able to pull the consuming mule to the spring, but they could not make him drink. If a little study be given the situation it might be found that the world is not oversupplied with wheat, but that there are obstacles to its distribution....One example is offered by Germany where, in the past year, the tariff on bread wheat was raised to $1.62 a bushel from the 62 cents that was in force in January, 1930. In the same period the tariff of $3.93 a barrel on wheat flour was raised to $10.78. In addition, there were imposed regulations requiring the mixing of a certain percentage of other grains in the milling of the wheat. This tariff was levied by authority of a law passed April 15, 1930, authorizing the German government to prevent the average price of wheat on Berlin Exchange falling below $1.69 a bushel. On March 28 of this year, the law was extended to March 31, 1932. The government also is authorized to raise or lower duties on all farm products. The tariff epidemic spread throughout Europe in the past year, so that France, Italy, Greece and other importing countries made foreign wheat too expensive for a free movement...."

Water Storage Dams

An editorial in Hunter Trader Trapper for June says: "This last year of drought has shown the necessity for storing up heads of water in the streams if water life is to be conserved. If we should be so unfortunate as to have a repetition of another such year soon the havoc wrought would be intensely felt. We have no assurance that such an occurrence is not to be frequent. When bridges are being built or reconstructed over streams is the cheapest time to construct in conjunction therewith a dam. Many States in order to have the power so to do must pass enabling acts that would authorize municipalities, townships, counties and highway departments to spend funds available for such important conservation work. This Nation will certainly pay the penalty for forest devastation, marsh reclaiming and general tilling of lands where water naturally would be impounded. Not only should all citizens be awake to this grave danger, from the sportsman's viewpoint, but for life itself. Water is life. It is bad enough to have our waters polluted but it is vital to health and supply for general use that a reasonable volume of water be maintained at all times in the river beds. This situation has become so acute in many sections that an awakened conscience in the general public has just begun to function. ...."

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLI, No. 47 Section 1 May 25, 1931.

LONDON WHEAT CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to the press of May 24 says: "The international conference of eleven wheat-exporting countries died Saturday, its last gasp being a resolution declaring that there is world-wide depression, that markets are now uncertain, that there is more wheat than can be sold at a profit, and that the world needs more statistics. Neither the United States nor Russia dissented from these conclusions, so the conference adjourned sine die in a spirit of complete harmony.

"Samuel R. McKelvie, chief representative of the United States, said he was glad the conference had 'accepted in principle the American suggestion that there should be a reduction in acreage.'...

"G. Howard Ferguson, Canadian High Commissioner and president of the conference,...made repeated references to the fact that the conference had been most harmonious and was unanimous in setting up a committee which in its turn will set up a bureau for gathering world statistics on wheat production and consumption.... Nils A. Olsen, chief of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture, already in London as a delegate, will be the American member of the committee, which is to create a bureau of statistics. There will be one member from each country. The work of this committee, as stated in the conference report, will be to 'submit to the governments of the countries participating in this conference a definite proposal for establishing, under the supervision of the committee, a clearing house for information to serve wheat-exporting countries. ...'"

POST OFFICE ECONOMIES

An Orange, Va., dispatch to-day states that a $38,000,000 saving in the Post Office Department this fiscal year and a program to continue economies next year were announced yesterday at President Hoover's Rapidan camp. The report says: "The announcement said a comprehensive program to increase efficiency in the department and to effect economies was formulated at conferences in which the Chief Executive, Postmaster General Brown and the Assistant Postmasters General participated. It was emphasized there would be no decrease in personnel to achieve the savings...."

THE FEDERAL BUDGET

The Associated Press to-day says: "A borrowing program to meet a deficit of $800,000,000 or more this year, and another--unestimated--next year, stood in sharp relief yesterday against criticism heaped upon the Nation's revenue system by Treasury heads. Secretary Mellon called for revision of the tax system Saturday night. He added his weight to that of Undersecretary Mills, who recently termed insistence upon a balanced budget, 'the one means I know of compelling a government to live within its income and of making the people realize that if they desire to expand the services of the Government they must inevitably look to increased contributions in the form of taxes.' Secretary Mellon reaffirmed the statement of other officials that borrowing would be resorted to in meeting the deficit...."

Section 2

Calendar Simplification Plans

A Rochester, N.Y., dispatch May 22 says: "More than 100 American plans of calendar simplification, submitted during the past two years from all parts of the country, were mailed to the League of Nations May 21 by George Eastman, chairman of the calendar committee for the United States....The material includes plans for thirteen, twelve and ten month fixed calendars, 'leap-month' calendars, calendars with six and five day weeks, and various other arrangements of the days, weeks and months. There are forty-two suggestions for the name of the additional month in the proposed thirteen equal months fixed calendar."

Diet Changes

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for May 23 says: "The average person in the United States to-day eats one-third less starch and nearly twice as much sugar as thirty years ago. Figures from the Department of Commerce indicate that in this thirty-year period there has been practically no change in per capita meat consumption, but that there has been an increase in dairy products of 22 per cent, in fruit of 20 per cent and in fats and oils of 30 per cent. People who work vigorously in the open air handle lots of bread and potatoes to good advantage. When they travel in automobiles and sit around in office chairs, they lose their appetite for much bread and instead eat more sugar, fruit and vegetables. This is a healthy thing for these people to do and there is no way of stopping it. Wheat farmers should keep in mind this long-time trend in the national dietary when they consider the proposition of how many acres to plant next fall."

Fruit and Vegetable Exchange

The Organization Committee of Nine for the proposed central cooperative agency to merchandise fruits and vegetables reported to the Farm Board May 21 that its work had been completed with the filing of Articles of Incorporation of the National Fruit and Vegetable Exchange, Inc., at Dover, Delaware. The committee has been meeting in Washington since Monday of last week. Establishment of the National Fruit and Vegetable Exchange, Inc., brings into legal existence the eighth national commodity marketing agency set up by cooperatives with the assistance of the Farm Board.

Medical Care Cost

The total annual cost of medical care in the United States is $3,106,000,000, and included in this is an item of $123,000,000 which, according to the Committee on the Costs of Medical Care, represents domestic servants who become ill in American homes each year. The committee also disclosed that its investigations, covering a period of more than four years, show that four out of every ten Americans to-day suffer from digestive disease in one form or other. (Press, May 17.)

Pan-European Union

An editorial in Christian Science Monitor for May 20 says: "The new edition of his plan for Pan-European Union, which Aristide Briand has submitted to the meeting of the Commission on European Union at Geneva, brings the world face to face with what is perhaps the most important political issue since the signature of the Treaty of Versailles. It is the question whether or not the old pre-war division of Europe into two military camps is to be perpetuated in the post-war period in the economic field. The discussions at Geneva center around two concrete proposals--one for a Customs Union between Germany and Austria,

which other nations may join if they like; the other for a seemingly more extensive though less clear-cut scheme of cooperation brought forward by France. At the moment, the two proposals are aimed as definitely one at the other as were the military armaments which were piled up with such deadly profusion in the years before 1914. The problem before the rest of the world is whether it can effect a reconciliation between the two schemes--whether the two economic swords can be made to turn, not against each other but into a plowshare which will enable the existing desert of economic depression to produce the much-needed rose of prosperity. Since the war ended, the nations of the world have been busy erecting fences round their economic back yards, not realizing that by thus shutting out the fertilizing waters of international trade they were stopping their own crops from growing. Now they are offered the opportunity of organizing themselves on a bigger scale. ...It is essential for the peaceful development of the world that France and Germany should not be allowed to become the nuclei of two rival economic organizations. But this will be the inevitable result of the discussions which are just beginning unless not only the two nations primarily concerned are animated by a real desire for reasonable compromise, but unless other countries which seemingly are not so directly interested shall play the part of the 'honest broker' of peace. Economic disarmament is no less necessary to the world than military disarmament. ...."

Prices

The index number of wholesale prices computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor shows a decline for April. This index number, which includes 550 commodities or price quotations weighted according to the importance of each article and based on prices in 1926 as 100.0, declined from 74.5 in March to 73.3 in April, a decrease of more than 1½ per cent. The purchasing power of the 1926 dollar in April was $1.364. Farm products as a group averaged 3/4 of 1 per cent below March prices, due to decreases for corn, oats, rye, beef steers, hogs, sheep, cotton, eggs, and wool. Wheat, lambs, and hay, on the other hand, were higher than in the month before. Among foods price decreases were reported for butter, cheese, fresh and cured meats, lard, rye flour, and corn meal, resulting in a net decrease of nearly 1½ per cent for the group. Wheat flour and dressed poultry averaged higher than in March. Hides and leather products showed little change in the price level from the month before, the trend being upward for packer's hides and country calfskins and downward for country cow hides and imported goatskins. Boots and shoes showed a negligible decrease, while no change was reported for leather. In the group of textile products appreciable decreases are shown for cotton goods, silk and rayon, woolen and worsted goods, and other textiles. The decrease in the group as a whole was over 2 per cent. Anthracite and bituminous coal showed customary April price reductions, while coke was stationary. Petroleum products again declined sharply, with lower prices for crude petroleum, fuel oil, and gasoline. Among metals and metal products there were price declines in iron and steel and nonferrous metals, causing a small decrease in the group total. In the building materials group slight declines are shown for lumber, brick, cement, and paint materials. The group as a whole showed a decrease. Chemicals and drugs, including fertilizer materials and mixed

fertilizers, moved downward in the month. No change in the price level was shown for furniture and furnishings in the group of housefurnishing goods. In the group of miscellaneous commodities, cattle feed, paper and pulp, and crude rubber declined, while automobile tires were unchanged in price. Raw materials as a whole averaged lower than in March, as did also semimanufactured articles and finished products. In the large group of nonagricultural commodities, including all articles other than farm products and among all commodities other than farm products and foods, April prices averaged lower than those of the month before.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.D.) for May 19 says: "Reliable statistics of crops and livestock are extremely valuable to the producers. They aid in gauging the future course of the markets and supply a useful guide to the farmers in their determination of how they can employ most efficiently the land and equipment under their control. In compiling such statistics, the United States Department of Agriculture is rendering a service to the farmers similar to that done privately by many other industries....As the farmer is unable to assemble such information by himself, it is necessary and entirely proper that a Government agency do it for him. If no such agency were in operation, crop and livestock statistics would be assembled by the buyers and it is entirely possible that they might flavor them occasionally to suit their interests which are the exact opposite of those of the sellers. With these points well in mind, it seems that we, who reside in an agricultural region, should lend every assistance to the Department of Agriculture in order to promote the accuracy of the figures. A phase of the Government's reporting of this nature is to take place late this month. Rural mail carriers are to distribute cards in connection with a pig survey. In addition to this, there will be mailed about 14,000 acreage schedules to South Dakota farmers. This work is being done under the direction of C. J. Borum, agricultural statistician, whose headquarters are maintained in Brookings...."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 22.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.75 to $8.50; cows, good and choice $4.75 to $5.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $7.75; vealers, good and choice $7.25 to $9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $6.75 to $7.50. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.75 to $6.40; lightlights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $6.80; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.25 to $6.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $7.75 to $8.65; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.50 to $8.25.

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Florida Spaulding Rose potatoes jobbed at $3.50-$4.25 per barrel in city markets and South Carolina Cobblers at $3-$3.75. Sacked Bliss Triumphs ranging $1.60-$1.80 per 100 pounds in Chicago carlot market; $1.10-$1.20 f.o.b. shipping points in Alabama, Louisiana and Texas. Maine Green Mountains sold at $1.25-$2.10 in consuming centers; mostly 85¢ per 100 pounds sacked at shipping points. Wisconsin Round Whites $1.10-$1.20 Chicago carlot sales; 85¢-90¢ per 100 pounds f.o.b. basis. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions mostly $1-$1.50 per crate in terminal markets; 80¢-$1 per 50-pound sack at loading stations in southern Texas. Louisiana Klondike strawberries jobbing at $2-$2.75 per 24-pint crate in city markets; auction sales averaging $1.55 f.o.b. Hammond. North Carolina Klondikes mostly 15¢-20¢ per quart and Missionarys 7¢-15¢ in large terminals; 32-quart crates returning growers $3.50-$5 in Chadbourn district and $2.25-$4 in Wallace district. Tennessee 24-quart crates Klondikes mostly $3.25-$4.75 in consuming centers. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes $3.25-$4.75 per standard 45's in large city markets; $1.60-$1.65 cash-track in Brawley district. Barrel crates of cabbage from Gulf States jobbing at $1.25-$2.75 in terminal markets; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. central Mississippi points. South Carolina 1½-bushel hampers bringing $1-$1.38 in city markets. Central California lettuce jobbing at $2-$3.50 per crate of 4 to 5 dozen heads in consuming centers; stronger at $1.60-$2 cash-track around Salinas, California.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 7 points to 8.54¢ per pound. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.07¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 6 points to 9.22¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 9.25¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 22½¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

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Vol. XLI, No. 48 Section 1 May 26, 1931.

LONDON WHEAT CONFERENCE

A London dispatch to-day says: "The London Times editorially expressed disappointment yesterday that the world grain conference had been forced to adjourn, 'leaving the problem very much where it was.' The paper said it assumed that prices eventually would be brought back to a remunerative level by growing less wheat, but that 'this natural method of readjustment is expensive in suffering to both producer and consumer.' The most promising plan submitted, in the opinion of the Times, was 'the restriction of exports to a mutually agreed quota--a scheme which the delegates of the United States were apparently unable to accept, even in principle,' adding that if the scheme had been accepted some difficulties would have remained. 'The conference was not entirely fruitless,' the Times said, 'for the existence of the committee it appointed will keep alive the spirit of cooperation and can hardly fail to lead to some restraint of the excessive, unregulated competition which brought the wheat market to its present plight.'...."

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE COOPERATIVES

Pacific Northwest fruit and vegetable cooperatives are opening the present canning season under a new system of marketing. Six local canning organizations in Oregon and Washington have unified their sales efforts through a grower-owned and controlled regional cooperative known as the North Pacific Canners and Packers, Inc., Portland, Ore. The new sales agency was established on March 25 with the assistance of the Oregon State College and the Federal Farm Board. Below are the names of the six associations that are members of the North Pacific Canners and Packers, Inc.: Washington Canners Cooperative, Vancouver, Wash.; Gresham Berry Growers, Gresham, Ore.; Springbrook Packing Co., Springbrook, Ore.; Silverton Food Products Co.,Inc., Silverton, Ore.; Puyallup and Summers Fruit Growers Assn., Puyallup, Ore., and Stayton Canning Company Cooperative, Stayton, Ore. The regional's six member associations handled a business aggregating approximately $3,000,000 during the 1930-31 season.

RURAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Wm. John Cooper, United States Commissioner of Education, has announced the calling of a conference on rural school supervision to be held in cooperation with Western State Teachers College, at Kalamazoo, Michigan, June 12 and 13. Education officials of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin have been invited to attend the conference, the second of its kind sponsored by the Office of Education for the midwestern States.

ARGENTINA FRUIT RULING

A Buenos Aires dispatch to-day says: "As a result of negotiations of the United States Embassy the Minister of Agriculture has decreed that American apples and pears may be imported in barrels or bushel baskets. The Provisional Government had previously decreed that such fruit must be shipped to Argentina in boxes. Fruit shipped in barrels or baskets must conform to all other sanitary restridtions of the Argentine Bureau of Agricultural Defense."

Section 2

Canadian Wheat Marketing

An Ottawa dispatch to The Business Week for May 27 says: "Financial stress has led Manitoba wheat pool farmers into bootlegging their wheat to the private grain trade to such an extent that the pool has given up efforts to enforce membership contracts and released members from their obligations. The Saskatchewan and Alberta pools still hold out, but bottlegging is on the increase. Cash payment at market prices from the independent grain trade is more attractive than a first installment from the pools...."

Dominican Cattle Export

According to a decree issued by the Dominican Republic Department of Agriculture and Commerce and signed by President Trujillo, the exportation of cows fit for breeding, calves, and stock in general weighing under 200 pounds, is forbidden. To export other cattle, the owner must obtain a certificate from the department; this certificate is valid for one year only, and must be returned to the department when the cattle have been shipped, with a statement giving the date and port of embarkation, the number of head exported, and the port of destination.(Listin Diario, Santo Domingo, Jan. 24, 1931.)

Pole on Bank Conditions

John W. Pole, Comptroller of the Currency, writing at length on "Our Banking Troubles" in World's Work for June, says: "...As a matter of fact, 95 per cent of last year's bank failures were due to conditions which prevailed, and were recognized as prevailing, long before the 1930 depression came along to aggravate them. Those conditions were peculiar to small banks in rural communities. The most deplorable fact about last year's failures is, that at a time when the Federal Reserve System enabled us to avoid anything remotely resembling a general credit stringency or currency suspension, and when the inherent vitality of the rank and file of large city banks enabled all but a negligible number of them to come through the depression unscathed, our country banks were compelled to continue suffering from the same fundamental defects of small-unit operation that have caused so many of them to fail, not in 1930 only, but in each year of the preceding decade. The continuance of a large number of country bank failures is an obstacle to business recovery which the manufacturer and merchant in the city should no longer ignore; nor should the farmer, for reasons of personal friendships and local sentiment, let these failures continue to add to his difficulties....Not until some months after depression and unemployment became widespread among us did the general public become acutely aware of our banking ills as a destructive factor in our economic life....The two tables listing the number of banks failures by States, one for 1930 and the other for a ten-and-half-year period, both indicate where the condition was epidemic and where it was sporadic. At some time during the longer period it was epidemic in about two thirds of the States; during 1930, in about half the States. Only five of the States which were seriously affected in preceding years--Colorado, Washington, Idaho, New Mexico, and Wyoming--were largely or wholly immune in 1930. The areas in which we may unquestionably say that bank failures were only sporadic during the longer period are New York, Utah, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maryland, Maine, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Vermont, Delaware, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia. New Jersey's tota

of three failures all occurred in 1930; so did six of Connecticut's total of nine, two of Vermont's total of three, and eight, or 35 per dent of New York's total of twenty-three. But considering the relative size of these States, and the number of banks in them, we can scarcely say that they were visited even last year by any condition that might accurately be described as epidemic. The impressive and inescapable fact shown by both tables is that bank failures, in 1930 as during the longer period, took their heaviest toll by far in States that have the largest agricultural populations and the largest number of small unit banks wholly dependent upon agricultural communities. Furthermore, a detailed table for each year during the longer period would show, as the 1930 table shows, that whenever the epidemic reached such a state it struck with terrific force and swept over a large number of banks in a comparatively short time, leaving extensive areas of our rural districts in a most deplorable condition, not only tying up the funds of depositors who already had been hard hit by other adverse developments but also depriving farmers and small merchants of the normal and necessary credit accommodations for carrying on the work of the next season, or the next year, or even much longer. As a result, we have perhaps several thousand communities in which banking facilities are either inadequate or do not exist at all...We must have a sound system if we are to have a sound bank; and as the unit system of small-bank operation in our agricultural communities has broken down, a better system must be provided for those communities if they are to have better banks. Why not do this by means that are already at hand? Give the rural districts the facilities of the strong and highly successful banks now operating in their nearest trade centers, making the small local banks branches of metropolitan institutions that have ample capital, large resources, and a natural self-interest in restoring and maintaining prosperity throughout the entire trade areas surrounding them. I can see no sound reason why agricultural communities should be required to depend solely upon small banks, or why the people in such communities should not have the same opportunities that city people have to do business with large banks...."

Science and the Press

Austin H. Clark, United States National Museum, writing on "Selling Entomology" in The Scientific Monthly for June, says:"...At the present time entomology is in danger of losing those intimate ... popular contacts which were so firmly established by Mr. Riley and greatly broadened and extended by his successor, Dr. L. O. Howard.... Entomology has now become so very technical, and entomological work is so time-consuming and exacting, that it is no longer possible for working entomologists to supply the press directly with the required information. Yet at the present time the press desires and can use far more information than can be supplied. Perhaps the greatest stumbling block in the way of supplying the press with the desired material is that the language of the press and the language of entomology are very different. Yet it is the plain language of the press that must be used in reaching ordinary people....This difficulty was foreseen and has been overcome by the press itself, on its own initiative. Entomologists have at their service a corps of able interpreters writing the language of the press but with a thorough appreciation of, and respect for, science....One by

one the great press services, groups of papers and large independent dailies have designated special men of proved ability as 'science editors,' whose business it is to see that scientific news and information is properly presented in the papers under their control....Now there is no denying the fact that the American people like to read about bigger and better science. The calm cold expositions of scientific fact one reads in the English and in the German press could never be printed here. Popular presentation must be to a certain extent along bigger and better lines. Yet even in this respect a compromise can easily be reached which will not be too distasteful to the most solemn of scientific men....Now writing for popular consumption is a specialty which has as a prerequisite natural aptitude based on exceptional mental equipment. This natural aptitude must be developed by a long process of intensive training under conditions involving constant and most bitter competition. A successful writer is in capacity and in training quite the equal of the successful delineator of the embryology, life history or ecology of an insect....It is chiefly because of the extraordinary ability of these writers on science that the relative amount of science printed in the papers is rapidly increasing at the expense of other types of material, and correlatively that public appreciation of science is rapidly increasing. Now in this increase in the amount of science appearing in the public press entomology has not participated to anything like the extent that was to have been anticipated in view of the fact that of all branches of science in this country the study of insects is perhaps most closely dependent on the good-will and support of the people...."

Sugar Beet Growers

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for May 23 says: "Twenty sugar beet growers from thirteen counties of the State were honored in the 1930 Michigan Beet Growing contest. These men grew an average 14.24 tons per acre; with an average value of $117.47 and a cost of $52.02, leaving a margin of $65.45. Seventeen of these twenty had their land tile drained; all used commercial fertilizers; fourteen planted beets after some cultivated crop, the majority being after beans; all save one applied fertilizer in the row; horses were used on every field, while tractor power was employed to some extent on fourteen fields. It appears that if one is to deviate from the practices of the best farmers in his community, it should be only when there exists the soundest reasons for doing so."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 25.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $8.25; cows, good and choice $4.50 to $5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $7.50; vealers, good and choice $7.25 to $9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $6.75 to $7.50; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.75 to $6.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.50 to $6.75; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6.25 to $6.65 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $7.75 to $8.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 80 to 82¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 83¼¢; St. Louis 81 to 81½¢; Kansas City 73½¢ to 75½¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 83¼¢ to 83 3/8¢; Kansas City 73¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 54¼¢; Minneapolis 46½ to 47½¢; Kansas City 46½¢ to 47½¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 54¼ to 54½¢; Minneapolis 49½ to 50½¢; St. Louis 55 to 56¢; Kansas City 50 to 51¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 27 to 27½¢; Minneapolis 24 3/8¢ to 24 7/8¢; St.Louis 29¼ to 29½¢; Kansas City 29 to 30¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes jobbing at $3.25-$4.25 per barrel in terminal markets, with Florida Spaulding Rose at $3.50-$4.50. Sacked Bliss Triumphs ranging $1.65-$1.85 per 100 pounds in Chicago carlot market; mostly $1-$1.10 f.o.b. shipping points in Alabama, Louisiana and Texas. Maine Green Mountains 75¢-85¢ sacked per 100 pounds f.o.b. Presque Isle district; $1.20-$2.10 in eastern city markets. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $1.25-$1.60 per 100 pounds in several midwestern markets; 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. shipping points. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions jobbing generally at 90¢-$1.50 per crate or per 50-pound sack of commercial-grade stock in large terminals; 85¢-$1 per sack f.o.b. loading stations in southern Texas. Crystal Wax onions mostly $1-$1.75 per 50-pound sack or per crate in consuming centers. Best California Yellow Bermudas $1.65-$1.75 and Crystal Wax onions $2 per crate in Chicago market. Louisiana Klondike strawberries bringing $2.50-$3 per 24-pint crate in city markets, with 24-quart crates from Central States jobbing at $3.50-$5. North Carolina berries selling at 8¢-22¢ on quart basis. Virginia stock mostly 7¢-20¢ per quart in consuming centers, with Heflins returning $2.50-$5 per 32-quart crate to growers on Eastern Shore. Imperial Valley Salmon Tint cantaloupes jobbing at $3-$4 per standard crate of 45 melons; lower at $1.25 cash-track in Brawley district. Barrel crates of cabbage from Gulf Coast States selling at $1.50-$2.50 in terminal markets; 75¢ f.o.b. central Mississippi points. Half-barrel crates from Virginia 40¢-$1.15 in city markets.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¼¢; 91 score, 22¾¢; 90 score, 22¼¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 23 points to 8.09¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 14.91¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 16 points to 8.73¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 8.77¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 49 Section 1 May 27, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT AND CABINET ON BUSINESS

The press to-day says: "Expert statisticians, who have pored over complicated masses of figures, watching for a point where there was a sign of business improvement, yesterday enabled the administration to make its first pronouncement in many months on the economic situation. The statement, regarded as of considerable significance since it could be aimed only at pointing to improvement, came from the White House. It said: 'The President and his advisers have been going over the economic situation and have found many factors that are favorable.' The statement was issued after a Cabinet meeting in place of President Hoover's Tuesday press conference....Meantime, the Treasury yesterday reduced the interest rate payable by non-Federal Reserve banks on Government deposits, now aggregating $100,000,000, from 1 per cent to one-half of 1 per cent, effective June 1, as an aid to the economic situation. ..."

RAIL RATE DECISIONS

The press to-day reports: "The railroad freight increase problem was tossed back into the laps of the railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission yesterday. The commission, responding to unofficial advances by President Daniel Willard, of the Baltimore & Ohio, declined to institute a general investigation of the railroads' present situation, which has been disclosed painfully in reports of decreased earnings. The upshot of this action is that railroads must work out what they think they need in the way of increased rates, and then ask the commission to authorize them.

"Announcement of the commission's action was made briefly in the following statement: 'The Interstate Commerce Commission in response to procedural questions informally presented to it by Daniel Willard on behalf of eastern railroad executives informed him that the commission will not at this time institute a general investigation into the general railroad situation on its own motion.'..."

FOREIGN TRADE MEETING

The outstanding phases of foreign trade in the last year and prospects for stimulating the export market to increased activity in the next year will be discussed at the three-day convention of the National Foreign Trade Council, which will open to-day at New York. About 2,000 industrialists, shippers and business men are expected to listen to several score addresses by diplomats, bankers, Government officials and experts on various phases of foreign trade. (Press, May 27.)

EUROPEAN WHEAT PLANS

A Budapest dispatch to-day says: "Disappointed over last week's wheat conference in London, Hungary decided yesterday to fall back on an agreement with Italy and Austria in reference to sale of 4,500,000 hundredweight of wheat and flour. Apart from this measure the Hungarian Government plans to maintain a system of quotas in the production of wheat, assuring to Hungarian producers a price of about 85 cents a bushel."

Section 2

Bolivian Research

A body known as the Bolivian Scientific Society has been organized in La Paz as a free institution dedicated to the study and investigation of pure and applied science. This society will carry on scientific investigation and work to utilize the physical forces and natural resources of the country. It contemplates the establishment of laboratories, libraries, the publication of a magazine and similar activities. In its work it will endeavor to collaborate with the department of public education and all other branches of the government. One of its sections will be devoted to a study of the first inhabitants in South America, and especially of the Tiahuanacu civilization.

Cattle Feeders' Day

An editorial in The Western Farm Life for May 15 says: "May 28 has been designated as the date for the twelfth Cattle Feeders' Day meeting at the Colorado Agricultural College in Fort Collins. This annual gathering is attended by feeders from Colorado, western Nebraska and Wyoming. This year thirteen pens of cattle, all fed different rations, will be ready for inspection at the experiment station yards. Holding this sort of meeting makes it possible for those interested to get first-hand information on the results of the various tests. The experiment station is concerned with helping farmers and feeders solve their problems. The holding of these feeders' day meetings is a most helpful means of bringing about a better understanding of just what the station men are trying to do...."

Grain Storage

"There is no indication of any great shortage of storage space or any unusual congestion in handling the forthcoming crop, despite the large wheat carryover and prospects of a large wheat crop," said George S. Milnor, general manager of the Farmers National Grain Corp." "New terminal and sub-terminal storage capacity throughout the country has been increased an estimated 40,000,000 bushels...." (Chicago dispatch, May 26.)

Pan-Europe Parley

A Geneva dispatch May 22 says: "Having sketched an outline of procedure for constructing a program of general European economic relief, the Pan-European commission adjourned May 21 to meet again on September 3. The outline, as adopted with numerous reservations, assigns various elements in the economic situation--such as tariffs, credits, unemployment and customs preference for cereals--to special committees which were charged to concentrate study on them immediately. It creates a coordinating committee which meets in Geneva July 6 to receive committee proposals and whip them into a harmonious general scheme of relief and rehabilitation. The results will be reported at the September plenary session for action...."

Production and Employment

The Federal Reserve Board yesterday issued the following statement: "Output of manufactures and employment at factories showed little change from March to April, and output of mines, which ordinarily decreases at this season, also remained unchanged. Wholesale prices continued to decline, and money rates eased further. Industrial production, as measured by the board's seasonally adjusted index which covers both manufactures and mines, increased from 88 per cent of the 1923-1925 average in March, to 89 in April, compared with 82, the low point reached

last December. Steel mill activity declined by considerably more than the usual seasonal amount, while in the automobile industry there was a larger than seasonal increase in output, according to preliminary reports. Consumption of cotton by domestic mills continued to increase, contrary to the usual seasonal movement, while there was a decrease in unfilled orders for cotton cloth, which was only partly seasonal in nature; consumption of wool, which ordinarily declines in April, increased considerably; at silk mills activity declined. There were large increases in the output of petroleum and anthracite coal, while production of bituminous coal declined by about the usual seasonal amount. The number employed in factories at the middle of April was about the same as a month earlier. In car-building shops and in establishments producing machinery, employment decreased considerably, while in the automobile and cement industries there were seasonal increases, and in the fertilizer industry a larger than seasonal increase. Employment at textile mills declined by less than the seasonal amount, reflecting chiefly a slight increase in employment at cotton mills, and a small decrease in the clothing industry; at mills producing woolen and silk goods declines in employment were larger than usual. Factory payrolls declined somewhat in April. Value of building contracts awarded, which fluctuates widely from month to month, declined considerably in April, according to the F. W. Dodge Corporation, and decreases were reported in all the leading classes of construction. In the first four months of the year total awards decreased 26 per cent from the corresponding period of 1930, reflecting declines of 10 per cent for residential building, 17 per cent for public works and utilities, 25 per cent for educational building, 43 per cent for factories, and 57 per cent for commercial buildings. Freight-car loadings showed about the usual seasonal increase in April. Department store sales increased 9 per cent from March, and the board's index, which makes allowance for the usual seasonal variations including changes in the date of Easter, stood at 105 per cent of the 1923-1925 average, compared with 97 per cent in March...."

Sugar Control L. A. Drake, writing under the title "Can Sugar Be Controlled?" in Barron's for May 25 says: "Like grandmother's patch quilt, the make-up of the world sugar industry to-day nearly defies description--so complicated are the problems of beet versus cane production, tariff protection, labor costs, dumping of surpluses, declining consumption, restriction of output and a hundred other questions of the moment. One recalls the parable of the seven lean years following the seven fat, for was not the sugar industry flaunting its prosperity throughout the World War and did not sugar rise to 22½ cents a pound in 1920?...The problem of reducing output when prices reach unprofitable levels is greatly complicated by the fact that it often seems cheaper to run plantations and production units at a loss than to close down and take at one stroke a much larger capital depreciation charge-off. This has been the particular nightmare of the cane producers of Cuba. Poverty for the sugar industry generally turns to tragedy in the particular case of Cuba. The United States continues the most important market for this island's sugar output, but this market becomes more difficult to hold with each passing year....Contrasted with the 10.42% reduction in output envisaged by the Chadbourne plan for Java, Cuba will suffer a decline from 1929-30

production of 36.5% while the beet output of Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, and Belgium will be curtailed approximately 15%. However, the plan provides for releases of part of existing stocks in case sugar rises to two cents a pound and over; a release of 5% at the two-cent level, and another 5% between 2¾ and 2½ cents. Further releases may be empowered by the Permanent International Council which will regulate the operation of the plan from its headquarters at The Hague. The plan affects the output of countries which produce only 45% of the world's sugar crop, although over 80% of the exporting nations are included. Aside from the threatening situation in the Orient and the possible unbridled competition by producers in the United States and territories, the plan faces the rapid growth of Russia as a producer and exporter...."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

T. Swann Harding is the author of a five-page article on "What the Food and Drug Administration Does" in The June Scientific Monthly. He says in part: "...The food and drug law is better enforced to-day than ever. This may be charged to a variety of factors. In the old days under the Bureau of Chemistry every case stood by itself. Inspectors were accountable to a central authority rather than to the chiefs of branch laboratories which were then, as now, conveniently located. Seizures were made...hit or miss. Even if a case was finally won it stood entirely alone and unrelated to the work on other cases by the same bureau. To-day, all that is changed. The eighteen branch laboratories of the administration have been organized into an eastern, a central and a western district with headquarters in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. Chiefs of branch laboratories are really chiefs, and both inspectors and chemists are accountable to them. Campaigns of procedure are carefully planned in advance and followed rigorously, although they are always sufficiently elastic to permit a special assault when conditions necessitate....By exercise of its powers over interstate and import commerce the Food and Drug Administration has removed from the market many preparations falsely labeled for cure of disease and reduction of fat. Seizures and court actions have resulted in destruction of the goods and, in some cases, fines for the manufacturers. Most manufacturers have now revised their labels to comply with the food and drug act...."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 26.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.25 to $8; cows, good and choice $4.25 to $5.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $7.50; vealers good and choice $7.25 to $9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $6.50 to $7.50; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.65 to $6.30; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.35 to $6.60; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $6.40 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8 to $8.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40 to $8.25.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes $3.50-$4 per stave and slat barrel in city markets. Florida Spaulding Rose $3.50-$4 per double-head barrel in the East. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.65-$1.85 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; mostly $1.10 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.25-$1.80 per 100 pounds in eastern cities and Wisconsin Round Whites $1.45-$1.55 carlot sales in Chicago; few 80¢-$1 f.o.b. Stevens Point. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.75-$3.25 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; $1.15-$1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia various varieties of strawberries 10¢-20¢ per quart in eastern cities; 32-quart crates Heflins $2.50-$5 f.o.b. in Bayview and Onley, Virginia. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-$1.35 per standard crate in consuming centers; 50-pounds sacked, $1-$1.50 and standard crates $1.15-$1.20 f.o.b. at Laredo and Crystal Wax $1.35.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¼¢; 91 score, 22¾¢; 90 score, 22¼¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 12 points to 7.97¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 14.89¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 11 points to 8.62¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 14 points to 8.63¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 50 Section 1 May 28, 1931.

RAIL CONDITIONS Modification of anti-trust laws to allow railroads to engage in highway transportation on the same basis as other transport companies, together with Federal regulation of Interstate motor bus and trucking concerns, was urged to relieve the present revenue predicament of railroads in a brief filed yesterday with the Interstate Commerce Commission by the Association of Railway Executives, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The railroads have contended that, through lack of regulation, Interstate buses and trucks have been able arbitrarily to fix their rates and routes with the result that much of the traffic formerly handled by rail has been diverted to the highway. This, they contend, has been in part responsible for the revenue crisis of railroads...."

A New York dispatch says: "The committee of eastern railroad presidents appointed to formulate a petition for an increase of freight rates, yesterday voted to refer the matter to the legal, traffic and accounting sub-committees, which are to report June 5. This action follows announcement by the Interstate Commerce Commission Tuesday that if proceedings for rate changes are to be started the commission will not take the initiative...."

FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL The press to-day states that at the opening of the three-day convention of the National Foreign Trade Council at New York yesterday James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation, who reviewed the world trade outlook, expressed the opinion that America would lead the world back to industrial recovery. The report says: "He felt that the road back to prosperity might be long. But he thought America's vast resources, her efficiency and economic strength left no doubt as to the outcome. Fixation of prices without control of production is, according to Mr. Farrell, 'one of the root causes of the present depression.'...The curtailment of foreign trade did not discourage him for he believed that our foreign trade still maintained salient features of our past progress. While it was vital to our prosperity to find a market overseas for 10 per cent of our production, the basis of successful foreign trade was laid in the home market....

"A cooperative federation for marketing foodstuffs abroad was suggested at a luncheon which took up that subject by Edward G. Montgomery, chief of the foodstuffs division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, as a means of meeting the 'rising tide of agrarian protection,' and of bringing export methods in line with increased domestic efficiency of foodstuffs distribution...."

FEDERAL RADIO PREDICTED Sir John Reith, managing director of the British Broadcasting Corporation, paid his respects to the Federal Radio Commission at Washington yesterday and spoke to its members briefly about the broadcasting situation in the British Isles. Sir John told the commission that he thought the United States would come to the idea of broadcasting held in England where radio facilities were owned by the government. In the British Isles, he said, there are one 50,000-watt station, nine 30,000-watt stations and a few smaller stations. Synchronization, he said, is working successfully, but there are some "mushy" spots. (Press, May 28.)

Section 2

Business Conditions

The Business Week for May 27 says: "The unrelieved monotony of general trade stagnation shown in the weekly indicators tends to obscure underlying currents of encouragement and tempts the imaginative to dramatize the tedium with rumors of further difficulties impending... Our index, still oscillating around the depression level, neither fully reflects these undercurrents nor justifies these fears....The continuous, cautious rise of the Federal Reserve Board's monthly production volume index since the beginning of the year, for the first time in the course of the decline, is undoubtedly significant....The relative strength of residential building is one of certain other straws that suggest slow improvement in fundamental factors....Most important of all is the plain indication that Federal Reserve credit policy is pointed toward expansion and that its persistent pressure is beginning to break down resistance in the interest rate structure and to bring reassuring results in the bond market--at least for the large governmental issues--to support the public construction that may ultimately be necessary to stimulate recovery or meet unemployment emergencies....Events of the week, especially abroad, at least show that governments have begun to grapple in earnest with problems which business leadership has been unable or unwilling to tackle....The European conferences especially imply the progressive collapse of laissez-faire and the consequent inescapable appeal to public authority."

Calavo Growers of California

An editorial in California Cultivator for May 23 says:"...As we listened to the past season's achievements of The Calavo Growers of California, as related by speakers at the annual banquet of this organization last week, we could not help feeling that some of our older cooperatives might well take lessons from this comparatively young marketing organization. In commenting on the success of the Calavo growers, Carlyle Thorpe called attention to the fact that in the face of the most severe economic depression we have experienced in recent years and with other agricultural products in less demand and bringing the producers little or no profit, this organization has successfully marketed a crop several hundred times larger than it has ever before been called upon to handle and was returning its members some profit....Manager Hodgkin who had just returned from a trip through the eastern markets and to Florida, Cuba and the West Indies, sounded the keynote of cooperative success when, in disclaiming any special credit for his management of the organization, he credited its remarkable success to the splendid cooperation of all the members who he stated had never hesitated at the cost when any proposed activity appeared to be for the ultimate good of the industry...."

Dominican Honey

"In the Province of Monte Cristi the production of honey is an industry of great importance. There are already over 300 apiaries, and the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture is not only encouraging the establishment of new ones, but is also introducing the Italian bee to improve the native stock. Production during 1930 was nearly 1,300 barrels, whose gross weight was approximately 350,000 kilograms (kilogram equals 2.2 pounds) and whose value was more than $20,000. The value of the beeswax was more than $8,000 for the 21,000 gross kilograms produced. (Listin Diario, Santo Domingo, Jan. 19, 1931.)

Farm Cost Cutting

An editorial in Commercial West for May 23 says: "Cutting costs will make the farm pay, but costs must not be cut to the detriment of production. That is as true of farming as of any other industry. The successful producer is the one who applies investment in speeding-up devices to the reduction of his overhead. This can be accomplished by the farmer through purchase of modern power machinery. Here are some facts bearing out this statement: A combine which has cut on the average 900 acres of grain a year for eight harvests with a total annual cost of repairs of less than $10 is owned by W. H. Koons, near Page City, Kansas. This farmer last year procured a tractor with sufficient power to pull two 8-foot one-way disk plows and used it for everything from tending corn to seeding wheat. F. J. Armstrong, near Goodland, has had two machines, each of which has combined nearly 1,000 acres of small grain a year for three seasons and a half section of corn in addition. These machines each have a daily duty of 50 acres and the repairs on both have been only $5. John Carlson, also near Goodland, harvested 1,100 acres of grain with his combine last year, four men doing all of the work including hauling to market. A windrower was also used, which helped to make it possible to cover so many acres with this machine. Although he has used it three years, unkeep and repair charges have been very low, he states. Mr. Carlson also uses a large sized tractor with which he pulls a 10-foot one-way disk plow. The tractor is also used in listing and tending 800 acres of corn. Much of his cultivation is economically done with a seven-section harrow. With a smaller sized machine W. E. Hubble, near Stockton, harvested 600 acres in 14 days last year, his grain yielding 21½ bushels an acre. What these farmers have done any good farmer can do."

Rock Gardens

An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph (Bloomington, Ill.) for May 25 says: "Sometimes a fad creates a new wealth out of materials which were formerly waste. Such, it seems, is true in regard to rock gardens. With the growing craze for rock gardens in the back yards of every up-to-date home, there has arisen a real market for stones...We read of one farmer out in Iowa who occupied a rather stony upland on which he formerly had a hard time to grow crops. Now he has found his rocks a bonanza. He collects them in piles, and sells them to tourists at $1 a bushel. He says he has sold enough rocks to have filled several railroad box cars. With the local output about exhausted, this farmer is now making trips to near-by river bluffs and collecting bigger and better rocks...."

Rural Fire Departments

An editorial in The Farmer for May 23 says: "Among the many forward steps taken by rural America in recent years is the extensive development all over the country of rural fire departments supplied with proper equipment. In farming communities where no fire-fighting facilities have been provided, any kind of fire, even a small one, starting in barn or house, often consumes the entire farmstead. The loss of life and property resulting from farm fires each year is an appalling one. It has now been definitely demonstrated that hundreds of thousands of dollars are saved annually in communities where steps have been taken to provide fire-fighting facilities. To the Western Actuarial Bureau of Chicago we are indebted for the following interesting facts. At Durand, Illinois, where a farm fire-fighting department has been in existence

for several years, it has been possible, in practically every case, to confine the fire to the building in which it originated, and in many instances to save the greater part of that building. A fire company at Bristol, Illinois, has been instrumental, in the past seven years, in saving property valued at $300,000 in 150 fires. At Carmel, Indiana, the farm fire department has fought 56 fires and effected a saving to farmers of $130,000. Many other actual instances could be cited. In every case where a farm fire-fighting department is in existence there are records to attest to its effectiveness. In some communities the establishment of these companies and the purchase of equipment are financed entirely by farmers. At Bristol, Illinois, for example, the establishment of the company and the purchase of equipment were financed by 160 farmers living in an area 15 miles in diameter. In other cases these companies are sponsored by business men in nearby towns. Among community projects worthy of serious consideration by farmers and farmers' clubs everywhere, this one of establishing rural fire departments deserves the very highest commendation."

Wages and Prosperity

A Philadelphia special to The Wall Street Journal for May 22 says: "Let us visualize a village in the farming country where business transactions are sometimes settled by goods instead of money. Two years ago, when the farmers employed the village carpenter they paid him a bushel of wheat for every hour he worked. This winter the farmers sent for the carpenter, but he refused to work unless they paid him two bushels of wheat for each hour. Pressed for his reason, the carpenter replied, 'I must protect my American standard of living.' As he turned to leave them, he added, 'High wages make prosperity,' and then he joined the army of the unemployed. Hugh Bancroft, president of Dow, Jones & Co., Inc., publishers of The Wall Street Journal, told this story to the Philadelphia Bond Club yesterday to illustrate his point that maladjustments resulting from a failure to distinguish between real wages and dollar wages are prolonging the current depression. 'The major trend of commodity prices has been rapidly downward for 11 years, and in all human probability will continue downward for at least a dozen years to come,' he declared. 'We might as well recognize this fundamental economic situation at once.'"

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 27.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $7.75; cows, good and choice $4 to $5.25; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $7.25; vealers, good and choice $7.25 to $9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $6.25 to $7.25; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.50 to $6.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $6.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.75 to $6.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8 to $8.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40 to $8.25.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 80 to 82¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 83 to 83¼¢; St. Louis 80½ to 81¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 83½¢; Kansas City 73¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 46 to 47¢; Kansas City 47 to 48¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 54 to 55¢; Minneapolis 48 to 49¢; St. Louis 56½¢; Kansas City 50 to 51½¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 27¼ to 27¾¢; Minneapolis 24¼ to 24¾¢; St. Louis 30¢; Kansas City 28½¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes brought $3.50-$4 per stave barrel in eastern cities. Florida Spaulding Rose $3.75-$4.25 per double-head barrel in the East. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.70-$1.80 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; $1.15-$1.20 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.35-$1.80 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Virginia various varieties of strawberries in 32-quart crates, $4-$6 in Philadelphia; Heflins $2-$4; and Premiers and Missionarys $3.50-$6 f.o.b. auction sales at Virginia and Maryland points. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.75-$3.25 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; $1-$1.15 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-$1.35 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers; standard crates $1.15-$1.20 f.o.b. Laredo.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 3 points to 7.94¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 14.92¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 8.59¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 5 points to 8.58¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 51 Section 1 May 29, 1931.

THE TREASURY DEFICIT

The Federal deficit passed the billion-dollar mark last Tuesday, according to yesterday's Treasury statement. In this connection, the Treasury Department made known that within a few days a decision would be reached as to the character of the Government's June financing. At that time $588,000,000 in short-term certificates will be retired. (Press, May 29.)

FOREIGN TRADE CONVENTION

The press to-day states that a thoroughgoing defense of the United States administration's tariff policies was presented to the national foreign trade convention at New York last night by Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce. The report says: "It came after a variety of attacks on the tariff, including demands for a special Congress session to cut duties....Doctor Klein denied United States exports had declined more than is normal in a depression, citing 18 per cent as representing the fall in exports both in 1930 and in 1921, the country's last depression...."

FARM BOARD WHEAT

About 25,000,000 bushels of the 35,000,000 bushels of so-called out-of-position wheat originally designated by the Federal Farm Board for export has been sold abroad, principally in countries of Continental Europe, Chairman Stone announced yesterday. The remaining 10,000,000 bushels, he said, is expected to be sold July 1. (Press, May 29.)

COTTON WEEK

Practically every city and town in the United States will celebrate National Cotton Week, which starts on Monday, George A. Sloan, president of the Cotton Textile Institute, announced yesterday at New York. According to a two-week's survey by his organization, 11,840 retail distributors in every State and more than 100 wholesale dry goods merchants will cooperate in the promotion, he said. (Press, May 29.)

LABOR SITUATION

Reports to the Labor Department were said yesterday by Secretary Doak to have indicated a slight improvement in employment conditions this month. The Labor Secretary's statement followed one Wednesday night by President Green of the American Federation of Labor warning that employment gains indicated by the number of union men finding jobs had not been up to normal and that steps should be taken to prevent distress next winter. Mr. Doak said he had no figures to indicate the amount of normal unemployment, but that the department had planned such a survey as soon as economists were available. He added estimates of normal unemployment ran from 760,000 to 1,600,000. The Secretary said his personal "guess" was that around 1,500,000 persons are out of work during normal times. (Press, May 29.)

EGYPTIAN COTTON

A Cairo dispatch to-day states that the Cabinet decided yesterday to appropriate $250,000 for publicity to create new markets for Egyptian cotton and also voted $250,000 for the development of Egyptian military aviation.

Section 2

Business Conditions in West

Isaac B. Newton, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, said yesterday: "After due allowance for seasonal expansion, the business situation in the Twelfth District has remained unchanged during the past three months. Industrial activity, which had been stable during February and March, appears to have shown about the seasonal increase during April. Divergent movements were shown by the various available measures of trade. Commodity prices continued to decline and the agricultural outlook was attended by factors similar to those prevailing in recent months. There was little to alter the agricultural situation during April--the probability that there will be good crops and low prices approaches a certainty.... Industrial operations increased from March to April by about the usual amount. Total lumber production increased more than seasonally, although developments in this industry were not uniform throughout the district... Trade activity did not change greatly from the March levels. Department store sales declined slightly during April, but this was due almost entirely to the fact that nearly all of this year's Easter trading came in March. Registrations of new automobiles and wholesale trade increased somewhat, but the volume of railway and intercoastal traffic contracted slightly during April. Neither total deposits nor total loans and investments of reporting member banks have changed appreciably during the past five weeks. Borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco by city member banks increased temporarily during late April and the first half of May but have since declined to less than a million dollars...."

Food Advertising

Food Distribution for June says: "Foods and food beverage advertising in national magazines, national farm magazines and radio broadcasting totalled $3,530,244 in April, 1931, compared to $3,531,432 in April, 1930, a decline of approximately three-one-hundredths of 1 per cent, according to the Business Survey Department of Dorance, Sullivan & Company, New York. Of this April total, $2,664,703 was spent in national magazines, compared to $3,105,124 in these publications in April of 1930; $780,708 was spent for radio broadcast advertising of foods and food beverages compared to a radio expenditure in 1930 of $354,470, a gain of $426,238 or 120 per cent. In national farm magazines the industry spent $84,833 in April of this year compared to $71,838 in April of 1930. An analysis of the national magazine advertising totals for April of 1931 shows that $453,410 was spent for food beverages; $521,329 was spent for cereals and flour; and $1,689,964 was spent for miscellaneous food products."

Forestry in Europe

An editorial in Nature (London) for May 16 says: "....It was one of the outcomes of the war which may be said to have given the greatest impetus to forest research work in Europe, as was the case in India, though the chief causes in the two instances were to some extent dissimilar. The greatly increased costs in connection with forest work of all kinds necessitated a reduction, or elimination, where possible, of all waste. According to locality factors, climate, species dealt with, and so forth, a set of problems were presented to the forest administration which demanded a solution, the underlying financial idea being the production of forest crops yielding a larger volume of material

on a smaller area or in a shorter space of time than had been the case in the past, or on poor quality land not under forests. These types of problems have a varying importance for the research officer, depending upon the nature of the forest in question, whether indigenous or not. The matter becomes of the first importance, however, when (1) exotics, especially conifers in Europe, are being employed on a large scale to reafforest areas formerly occupied by indigenous forest; (2) where bare lands, which have been for long unforested, and may or may not have carried forest before, are being planted on a wholesale scale, whether with indigenous or exotic species--the latter usually with the expressed or implied wish or hope that a larger volume of material will be produced per unit of area in a shorter space of time than is the case with an indigenous species. The officers responsible for the introduction of the policy implied under (1) and (2) are the administrative forest officers, the executive officers carrying it out. Until comparatively recently, the research officer, if he existed, has had no voice in formulating an afforestation or reafforestation policy; nor was he often consulted with reference to the species to be made use of in afforesting bare lands, or in the choice between indigenous or exotic species. The part of the research officer came into play when disease had made its appearance in the plantations formed under a preordained policy. Of late this position has been reversed in some of the countries of Europe. Sweden may be quoted as an illustration, since it is common knowledge that the Swedish forests play a most important part in the economy of the nation, forest produce taking a high place in that country's export trade. Apart from the ordinary work in regenerating the areas annually felled, Sweden has undertaken an extensive afforestation campaign on barren lands, of which large areas are of a varying type of peat....The next decade of the work of the Forestry Commissioners will be a momentous one. The money to be spent in pure afforestation work on new lands runs to a considerable figure. In this one instance it is becoming obvious that soil research work will perhaps be the deciding factor between success and failure. The commissioners will be well advised if they mobilize for this work every center in the country--and they are but too few--capable of assisting in this vital matter...."

Rail Rates

An editorial in The Washington Post for May 28 says: "Refusal of the Interstate Commerce Commission to initiate an investigation into the railroad rate situation is significant. The commission is well aware of the fact that the railroads are not earning a fair return upon their valuation. Under ordinary circumstances it would be the duty of the commission to raise rates so that further losses might be avoided. But the commission refuses to act on its own motion. Apparently its members believe that higher rates would not work to the advantage of the public nor the railroads. The commission shrinks from the responsibility of trying to work out a schedule of rates that would enable the railroads to recoup their losses. If the carriers have some feasible plan in mind, they will have to work it out and formally present it to the commission. Refusal of the commission to take the lead seems to imply that it is skeptical as to the benefits to be derived from the proposed increase. Testimony by Commissioner Joseph Eastman before the Senate interstate commerce committee last winter offers a key to the situation. A substantial increase in freight rates, he said, might be

another blow to industrial conditions and might tend to retard recovery, so that in the long run the railroads would be worse off than they are now. Certainly the railroads could not profit by any action that would deepen the mire of depression. One other factor which has come to the foreground is that most of the railroads' difficulties may be traced to the loss of passenger traffic. But the carriers are not proposing to increase passenger rates. That would only stimulate competition by buses, private automobiles, and airplanes. Many roads are making further reductions in their passenger fares in an attempt to win additional patronage. Competition is not so keen in the transportation of freight, but it is constantly growing. Higher freight rates are certain to give truck lines new impetus. In view of the attitude of the Interstate Commerce Commission and of adverse public opinion, carriers might find it advisable to grapple with the problem again. Perhaps they could find a measure of relief in adjustment of a limited number of rates which are now abnormally low."

South Dakota Lands

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S.D.) for May 25 says: "In a letter published in the Argus-Leader Saturday, Lieutenant Governor O. K. Whitney set forth the conditions under which land held by the South Dakota Rural Credits department may be sold and characterized them as sufficiently liberal. Provided the sales price is large enough to cover the accrued indebtedness against a piece of land, the board may transact a sale without court order. If the price, however, does not cover the indebtedness, court authorization must be obtained. The board has the privilege, too, to sell lands on a partial payment basis, the payments being spread over a period as long as 20 years if desired. In some respects, these conditions are reasonably satisfactory. It is easy to negotiate a deal in which the sales price covers the accrued indebtedness. If the reverse be true, however, the transaction is not completed so simply. A court order must be obtained. And the real Rural Credits problem centers about those lands which can't be sold for the amount of the indebtedness standing against them. The others are not a cause of worry. But under the present system, we are selling the good deals and retaining the poor ones. This makes a fairly nice showing on paper but the outward appearance is deceptive. In time, the unpleasant side of the story will be more clearly revealed....An obstacle confronting the partial payment plan of land sales lies in the credit terms. Interest at 6 per cent, we understand, is required. This is not easy credit in the face of existing conditions...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

May 29.--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $7.75; cows, good and choice $4 to $5; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $7.25; vealers, good and choice $7.50 to $9; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice $6 to $7. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.40 to $6; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6 to $6.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.65 to $6.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8 to $8.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40 to $8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 80¢ to 82¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 82½¢; St. Louis 80½¢: to 81¢; Kansas City 73½¢; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 73¢; No.3 mixed corn, Minneapolis 47¢ to 48¢; Kansas City 47¢ to 48¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 55¢ to 55¼¢; Minneapolis 48½¢ to 50¢; St. Louis 57¢; Kansas City 51¢ to 52½¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 27¢; Minneapolis 24 3/8¢ to 24 7/8¢; St. Louis 29¢; Kansas City 29¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes brought $3.50-$4 per stave barrel in eastern cities. Florida Spaulding Rose in double-head barrels $3.50-$4.50 in the East. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.70-$1.80 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; $1.10-$1.15 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.25-$1.65 in terminal markets. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.50-$2.75 per standard crate of 45 melons; $1.10-$1.15 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-$1.40 per standard crate in consuming centers; $1.15 f.o.b. Laredo. Virginia Pointed type cabbage 60¢-75¢ per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. Mississippi Pointed type $1.75-$1.90 per 100 pound crate in Pittsburgh; mostly 75¢ f.o.b. Crystal Springs. Virginia various varieties of strawberries $3-$6 per 32-quart crate in Philadelphia; Heflins $2-$4.50, Premiers $4-$5.50 and Big Joe $7 f.o.b. at Onley.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 3 points to 7.97¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price stood at 14.99¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 8.59¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 8.59¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¾¢; 91 score, 23¼¢; 90 score, 22¾¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12 to 14¢; Single Daisies, 13¼ to 14¢; Young Americas, 13¾ to 14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLI, No. 52 Section 1 June 1, 1931

TREASURY DEFICIT FINANCING

The press to-day says: "The start of Secretary Mellon's program for refinancing the Federal short-term debt of more than $3,000,000,000 was announced yesterday with the offer of a fifteen to eighteen year Treasury bond issue of $800,000,000. This is the largest issue since the war.....The bonds, to be dated June 15, will carry a record low interest rate for the post-war period of 3-1/8 per cent. They will be callable in 1946 and mature in 1949....."

FARM BOARD CHANGES

William F. Schilling, dairy member of the Farm Board, was reappointed May 30 by President Hoover for a six-year term, according to the press of May 31. At the same time, Charles C. Teague, vice chairman and fruit and vegetables member, relinquished his duties after serving a year beyond the term of his appointment.

The press reports that in his letter of resignation, Mr. Teague told President Hoover that "during the last two years more progress has been made in cooperative marketing than has been made in any previous ten-year period."

COTTON SEED RATES

Two examiners recommended to the Interstate Commerce Commission May 28 a new basis for country-wide rates on cotton seed and its products and related articles, according to the press of May 29. The report says: "The proposals, made by John T. Money and George Esch, would result in increases in the Southeast and Mississippi Valley and reductions in the Mountain Pacific region and Central & Eastern trunk line territory. The rates on imported cottonseed meal and cake, now lower than those on the domestic manufactured article, would be raised to a level with the home product. Charges on these products, it is said, should be the same throughout the country....."

RURAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

An Albany dispatch May 27 states that Governor Roosevelt of New York issued an invitation May 26 to the Governors of the various States to attend the fourteenth annual American country life conference at Cornell University, Aug. 17-20. The Governor's letter pointed out that "the conference will be devoted to the topic of rural government" and "will consider all phases of rural government and that these will be presented by recognized authorities."

NITRATE PACT

A Paris dispatch to-day states that a new and largely strengthened world nitrate agreement covering more than 90 per cent of the world output of both natural and synthetic nitrates probably will be reached in Paris this week. Negotiations among nine European nations which produce the synthetic product have been going on at Paris for some days and from present indications the conversations should reach a conclusive stage by Wednesday or Thursday.

Section 2

Australian Research Bureaus

The Journal of the Australian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research gives a summary of the first annual report of the executive committee concerning the organization and objects of the eight new Imperial Agricultural Research Bureaus. The eight bureaus, namely, those of soil science, animal nutrition, animal health, animal genetics, animal parasitology, plant genetics (herbage plants), plant genetics (other than herbage plants), and fruit production have now been fully organized and are all actively functioning. Their location at existing research institutes has enabled them to operate economically and efficiently. The various institutes have placed accommodation at the disposal of the bureaus on generous terms, and have assisted in numerous other ways, but particularly by making their libraries freely available, and by allowing their officers to give advice and help on particular inquiries. Although the bureaus were established only recently, several of them were able, before the close of the year, to commence the distribution (at first in mimeographed form) of information in their particular branches of agricultural science. Another object of the bureaus is to facilitate arrangements for research workers granted "study leave" to undertake well-thought-out courses of further study and investigation. Another function on which the executive council and the directors lay special stress is that of promoting in every way possible direct contacts between officers of the bureaus and research workers overseas.

Business Conditions

An editorial in Forbes for June 1 says: "At the present time we have a check between business fundamentals and business psychology. Business fundamentals are favorable. Business psychology is pessimistic. The stage is set for the dawn of a new era of resurrected prosperity. Such observations must naturally emanate more from theory than from the practical side, yet sound theory has generally proved in the past the foundation for the most reliable trend of thought in true forecasting. It indicated the turn downward in 1929 when very little else did. It now indicates the turn upward when very little else does. And yet, from a more practical standpoint, the business indexes themselves have already formed a bottom in January and February of 1931 and have started upward. When Forbes preaches the gospel of optimism at this time it does so not with the feeling that we shall see any immediate or rapid recovery, but simply that the worst is passed and that recovery, while slow and often discouraging, is looming above the business horizon....."

Cod-Liver Oil

In a review of a report on the relative values of cod-liver oil, prepared by Professors Hilditch and Drummond, The British Medical Journal for May 16 says: ".....The report includes details of the methods of manufacture of cod-liver oil in Scotland and in Newfoundland, and it should do much to dissipate a certain prejudice that has arisen from misleading statements about the Newfoundland oil. Incidentally, the authors mention the rather startling statements made by Aghuhr regarding the toxic actions which he claimed were produced on the heart by cod-liver oil. This work has been criticized by various authors, and Professor Drummond states that in a long experience of administration of cod-liver oil to animals of many species, he has never observed harmful results following the use of reasonable doses. Another point touched on is the frequent adulteration of cod-liver oil for cattle, and the suggestion is made that certain specifications should be adopted for liver oils sold

for consumption by farm animals. The authors investigated, also, the vitamin content of the food of the cod. They conclude that the primary source of vitamin A is the minute green plant life of the sea, which directly or indirectly forms the primary food supply of the teeming animal life of the ocean. The source of vitamin D is, however, uncertain, for these plants do not produce it in appreciable quantities, and the small crustacea which comprise the main food of the cod were found to be deficient in both vitamins. While it is difficult to account for the source of the high vitamin content of cod-liver oil, they think it unlikely that the fish synthesize the vitamins, and incline to the belief that these are concentrated from the large bulk of food which the fish consume."

Crotalaria in Florida

"A new fertilizer crop that promises well for the sandy, nitrogen-poor soils of Florida and other Southeastern States, has been found in several species of Crotalaria, more familiarly known as rattle-pod and rattlesnake weed. It is a member of the legume or pea family, and has the same kind of bacterial nodules that grow on the roots of peas and clover, capturing nitrogen from the air and making it available for the use of higher plants. There are about 600 species in the genus Crotalaria, of which five are native to the eastern United States. The species tried out in Florida are partly native, partly imported from South America. The plant gets both its common and its scientific names from the hollow pods of many of the species, in which the seeds rattle when blown by the wind, giving a sound suggesting the buzzing of a rattlesnake. The scientific name of the rattlesnake genus is Crotalus, whence Crotalaria for the plant." (Science, April 24.)

Farm Museum Dedicated

A Hadley, Mass., dispatch to-day says: "The old Hadley Farm Museum, unique among historical institutions, was dedicated May 27 at the old Hadley Meeting House. Collections of farm implements and household equipment are displayed in the renovated historic Huntington barn, the gift of Dr. James Lincoln Huntington of Boston and Hadley. The museum, with its varied agricultural antiquities, which will eventually become the property of the town, is sponsored by Henry R. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Johnson. The speakers stressed the importance of the old barn and its unique collections as a means of presenting to the modern generation the significance of the past, so essential to an understanding of the relation of this past to the present and the future."

Farrell on Farming

F. D. Farrell, President of Kansas State Agricultural College, writing on "Farming" in the North American Review for June, says: "..... It is almost idle to discuss the immediate financial prospects of farming in determining the value of the latter as a career for young men finishing college in 1931. For one thing, nobody knows very much about the abatement of the economic depression now affecting farming and virtually all other occupations. For another, even a correct prediction-- if one could be made-- of financial returns from farming in the next five years might be realized, and a radically different prediction might be in order before young men who enter upon farming careers in 1931 could be more than fairly started. But all past experience supports the view that, in the long run, good farming in a good farming district in the United States is sufficiently profitable financially to support a good home life and provide for the essential amenities, and virtually certain to yield some

of the most significant nonfinancial rewards to people who have sufficient appreciation of rural values to recognize and enjoy the rewards. Doubtless there always will be competition in farming. Because of the increasing use of science and machinery and because of the probably increase of appreciation of the social values inherent in farming and rural life, competition is more likely to increase than to diminish. Farming is not a career for mollycoddles. To be successful in it requires intelligence, resourcefulness, self-reliance, patience and hard work.....Improved machinery, modern facilities for transportation and communication and new knowledge rapidly are relieving farm life of drudgery and involuntary isolation, but farming still is a career for people of character, courage and energy....."

Wheat As Stock Feed

An editorial in The Washington Post for May 28 says: "Feeding wheat to livestock is not a new thing in Kansas, where there has been an oversupply for some time, but Secretary Mohler, of the State board of agriculture, says that it was not until the American Royal awarded the grand champion carload prize to cattle that had been fitted on a wheat ration that interest was aroused this year. More recently it became known that one of the largest cattle feeders of the State was buying wheat in thousands of bushels for his herd, and widespread interest in methods and results has developed. A survey made by the Kansas board in a previous year, when wheat was low and more than 4,000,000 bushels were used as feed, showed by reports from 50 counties that, pound for pound, wheat is superior to corn for fattening hogs. Even though fed whole the average gain per bushel of wheat was eleven pounds. Wheat is found to be superior to corn for feeding young animals and when mixed with corn, oats or bran is better than any single grain. For feeding cattle wheat has a very high value that is enhanced by a part ration of bran. Wheat is unsurpassed by any other grain for feeding fowls, especially for egg production.

"Individual farmers, as is natural, differ considerably as to the value of wheat over corn for horses and hogs, and the advantages of various formulas for admixture with other grains, but there appears little divergence of opinion on the superiority of wheat as the ideal feed for poultry and dairy cows. There used to be a saying generally quoted that if not unprofitable it was wicked to feed wheat. But with the vast surplus in storage and with corn and wheat approximately the same price per bushel, no one need fear at present that wheat rations for livestock will deprive any one of his daily bread."

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 53 Section 1 June 2, 1931

PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY DISCUSS DEPARTMENT ECONOMIES

Secretary Hyde discussed with President Hoover yesterday Department of Agriculture expenditures, the Secretary and various department officials indicating how savings might be effected, according to the press to-day.

CANADA TARIFF CHANGES

An Ottawa dispatch to-day states that Premier Bennett in his annual budget speech to the House of Commons yesterday announced extensive changes in Canada's tariffs, most of them upward revisions. Many affect products derived in large quantities from the United States. The report says: "The revisions, the Premier said, were not general, but were confined to such schedules as would assist in adjusting unemployment. Only those items which required to be changed, he said, had been dealt with. Almost all schedules were affected, however, in regard to certain of their items, the total number of rate-bearing items cited in the resolutions offered being nearly 200. Excepting in a few instances, alteration in rates is confined to the intermediate and general tariffs, the latter affecting imports from the United States, while British preference tariffs were little altered. The revisions include particularly automobiles, coal, coke, food and utility products delivered in cartons; live hogs, fresh meats, bacons, hams, and shoulders; canned fruits and vegetables, raisins and oranges, as well as numerous other foods and food products.....

"The budget statement provides farm aid on export wheat by an adjustment of the freight rates, by which the Dominion Government will absorb 5 cents a bushel of the cost of transporting all the wheat produced in Western Canada....."

FARRELL ON BUSINESS

A New York dispatch May 25 states that James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation and chairman of the National Foreign Trade Council, expressed a conviction in a radio address May 24 that "our worst experiences are behind us and that we are gradually entering upon a period of increasing trade activity." America's recovery, he said, is not entirely dependent upon the solution of problems in other lands. "We possess within ourselves the power to lead in world trade recovery. This power, to be effective, must be directed to the solution of our domestic situation. If we would aid the world, our efforts must begin at home."

EGYPT SELLS COTTON

A Cairo dispatch to-day states that the Egyptian Government yesterday sold 25,600 bales of Ashmouni cotton from its stock to Soviet representatives at Cairo. The report says: "According to the contract, the Soviet is to pay cash on delivery, which is to be in instalments beginning June 1 and extending until August 31. One of the most important clauses in the contract is that this cotton must be taken directly to Russia and under no condition may it be resold elsewhere....."

Section 2

Brazilian Oiticica Tree

A new industrial use for oiticica oil, produced from the seed of the tree of that name, has been begun by several companies who are producing it for use in the manufacture of paints and varnishes. The oiticica tree, or Peluragina umbrassissima, which is native to Brazil, is found in abundance in Ceara and various other States in the northern part of the Republic. It is characterized by a very leafy crown and attains a great height; its fruit ripens between the months of December and March. Although the wood is often employed for construction purposes, the principal reason for the economic importance of the tree is the seed from which an oil, well known for its drying properties, is extracted.....The indigenes use the oil as a remedy for rheumatism and certain kinds of inflammations, but, despite its disagreeable odor, it is also utilized in the manufacture of soap. Two factories, one in Rio de Janeiro and the other in Fortaleza, are producing oiticica oil for industrial purposes at the present time. Although both are working on a small scale they are considered successful, their average yield of oil from the seeds being from 35 to 40 per cent. (Pan-Am. Union Bul.)

North Carolina Extension Work

An editorial in The Southern Planter for June 1 says: "The problem of aiding farmers and their families to live at home took first place in the 1930 program of the Extension Division of the North Carolina State College. It was so highly successful that the value of the food and feed crops for 1930 amounted to $20,000,000 more than those of 1929. The aim for 1931 is to secure a further increase of $40,000,000 under the slogan 'Farm to Make a Living.' Curb markets have proved an excellent means of disposing of surplus crops for both men and women. During the past year 29 such markets sold $274,000 worth of farm and home products. Club members made unusually good records in increasing crop yields. The corn club members averaged 49.9 bushels of corn per acre, which is more than double the State average. The 1,014 calf club members did much to increase the production of dairy products. The livestock industry of the State, following the increased production of lespedeza, soybeans and pastures, rapidly progressed under the wise advice of the Extension Division. Last year the dairy products of the State were valued at $19,000,000. In 14 counties, 239 carloads of hogs, valued at $300,267 were shipped. Poultry owners made great strides. It is estimated that 10,000 acres more of truck crops were grown in 1930 than in 1929. In five counties alone, the returns from truck crops was $709,000 in cash. The women also greatly increased the number of year-round gardens. The wonderful results already accomplished, under the influence of the Extension Division, in making North Carolina self-supporting indicates that the Agricultural College occupies a very worth-while place in the State. Through the cooperation of the farmers and the continued wise leadership of the Extension Division, it will doubtless accomplish the goal of producing $40,000,000 worth of additional food and feed crops this year."

Paish on World Depression

Sir George Paish is interviewed for Barron's of June 1, in which he is quoted as saying: "When I was here in 1927 I found your leading men fully informed not only about the position of the United States but also the economic position of the world in general. But at that time the situation was such that these men were unwilling to make their views generally known, fearing they might hamper the trade expansion which was then taking place. They realized, however, that the then existing conditions were ephemeral, and that the longer they continued the greater and

more serious would be the collapse. During my present visit I have had the opportunity of discussing matters with a very large number of your prominent men. Their information about your own country and about the world in general is second to none. They are fully aware not only of the difficulties which confront America in common with the rest of the world but also know the steps that should be taken in order that your own country, together with the other nations, may overcome their difficulties.... People are not willing to change their views or to stand for the policy which the situation calls for unless they fully understand it, its causes and consequences. This forces me to the conclusion that the depression in this country and in the world in general will probably have to be allowed to get even more serious than it is before there is a true comprehension of its nature and its remedies.....The only possible policy that will carry the nations out of their present troubles into a new and greater spirit of prosperity is a policy of collaboration and cooperation which will make the whole world still more efficient as an economic unit, which will expand the productive power of all countries, which will expand the trade of all countries, and which will bring universal prosperity....."

Palestine Agriculture

Nature (London) writing on "Agricultural Science in Palestine" says: "When the Zionist organization began to develop its program for the colonization of Palestine, it realized the need for scientific research into agriculture and horticulture and set up an experimental station at Tel-Aviv under the directorship first of Doctor Warburg, and now of Dr. Elazari Volcani.....The agricultural problems are those of a dry region of smallholders-- a usual type of holding where irrigation can be widely practiced but less common otherwise. The smallholdings are necessitated by the circumstance that Palestine is only a small country, already carrying a considerable population of Arabs who have been there for many years and regard themselves as having a good claim to the land; while the number of Jews who wish to colonize it is considerable. To meet the difficulty, the method was early adopted of working out schemes of husbandry suitable for small farmers of intelligence but not much capital....."

Proprietary Medicine Control

The Lancet (London) for May 16 says: "We have read with sympathetic interest the details of a proposed plan for the control of the sale of proprietary remedies in New York. The author of the scheme is Dr. Samuel M. Gordon, secretary of the council on dental therapeutics of the American Dental Association, who was invited by the Commissioner of Health of New York to make a survey of the present drug administration of that city and offer suggestions how to bring its activities into line with present-day notions. The sale of proprietary medicines in the United States is already subject to control; the operation of the Pure Food and Drugs Act and the special regulations adopted in various States suffice to prevent many of the practices which are common enough in this country. Nevertheless, American legislation has not sufficed to suppress the evil, and although the heyday of the business seems to be past in the United States and the old method of advertising may have been suppressed, 'it has been replaced,' says Doctor Gordon, 'by a more subtle and more insidious exploitation of articles for various groups of ill-defined conditions, based on an evasive appeal to the health desires of the public.'....It is the desire of the New York Health Department to outwit

the users of the 'lawful' form of falsehood, and it is thought that this could be accomplished by putting Doctor Gordon's scheme into operation......"

Wheat Farming

Morrow Mayo writes at length under the title "Goodbye, Wheat Farmer!" in The American Mercury for June. He opens his article by quoting Henry Ford, who said: "Larger corporations whose sole business it will be to perform the operations of plowing, planting, cultivating and harvesting will supersede the individual farmer, or groups of farmers will combine to perform their work in a wholesale manner. That is the proper way to do it, and the only way in which economic freedom can be won." The author then says: "In the last few years there has been a very definite movement towards corporation wheat farming in the United States.....At least half a dozen farm corporations are now operating and expanding in the Wheat Belt, and others are being organized. They have acquired huge wheat acreages at distress prices, erased small farm units, bought out insolvent growers, dispossessed poverty-stricken tenant farmers, and placed a part of the wheat-growing industry on an economical, efficient, mass-production basis. Farming from 15,000 to 75,000 acres scientifically with modern power equipment, these new corporations can produce wheat profitably at a price which spells ruin to the small American grower.....The American wheat farmer has voluntarily and gladly adopted the machine. But he has made very little, if any, economic and social adjustment to the mechanical revolution which he has thus helped to bring about. The great bulk of our domestic wheat continues to be grown on what to-day can only be described as a piece-meal basis-- that is, on wheat farms of from 200 to 600 acres-- by thousands of tenant farmers and small independent growers. It requires them, as I have said, about fifty-three days a year (not more than 100 under any circumstances) to make and sell their annual wheat crop. They are using machinery which demands farm units of from 5,000 to 10,000 acres for efficient utilization. These small producers depend now, as they depended twenty years ago, largely if not entirely upon wheat for their main support.....It is true that, so far as the wheat farmer is concerned, there is an economic surplus of wheat in the United States at the present time, and it has been here off and on for forty years. There is no reason to believe that we will ever be without it again so long as the bulk of our domestic wheat continues to be produced as it is now. Because an economic-producer, not actual-consumptive, surplus is defined as 'that portion of a crop in excess of the quantity that can be sold at a fair profit to the average producer.' And the average producer in the United States, which is the tenant farmer and the small independent farmer, can not make what they consider a fair profit, i.e., a living all the year round, when wheat is selling at less than $1.50 a bushel. But others can. Anybody who produced wheat efficiently last year can sell every grain of it right now and make a good profit on it, for his production cost was only about fifty cents a bushel. Mere quantity does not make a surplus in wheat, for every grain of it can be sold. Price and production costs are the determining factors.....There is no surplus of wheat so far as bread-eaters are concerned. There is somebody else to think of beside wheat farmers. The solution to the wheat problem lies in economical production. The solution lies, first, in economical production, and secondly, in regulation which will permit the ultimate consumer to get the benefit of it....."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 1.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.25-8; Cows, good and choice $4-5; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.50-7.75; Vealers, good and choice $7.50-9; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice $6-7; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.50-6.05; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.25; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.75-6.20 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down)$9-10.50; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices quoted June 1: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 78½-80½¢; No.2 red winter St.Louis 80-81¢; Kansas City 73½¢; No. 2 hard winter Chicago 81¢; Kansas City 73¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 53¢; Minneapolis 44½-45½¢; Kansas City 46-47¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 55¢; Minneapolis 45½-46½¢; St. Louis 56-56½¢; Kansas City 50½-52½¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 26½¢; Minneapolis 23½-24¢; St. Louis 28¢; Kansas City 48-49¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged $3-3.75 per stave barrel in terminal markets. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-1.60 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; $1-1.10 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.25-1.60 per 100 lbs. in the East. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites $1.15-1.25 carlot sales in Chicago. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.75-3.25 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets; $1.10-1.15 f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia Pointed type cabbage 60¢-$1 per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. Mississippi stock $1.70-2.25 per barrel crate of approximately 100 lbs. in a few cities; 75¢ f.o.b. Crystal Springs. Eastern Various Varieties of strawberries in 32-qt. crates, 7-18¢ per qt. in eastern cities; Heflins $1.50-3; Premiers $2.50-3.50; and Big Joes $3.50-5 f.o.b. at Onley, Virginia and Premiers $3-4 and Missionarys $3.75-4.50 f.o.b. Pocomoke City, Maryland, per 32-qt. crates.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 21 points to 7.88¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 14.85¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Eschange declined 24 points to 8.47¢, and on the New Orleans declined 18 points to 8.52¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¼¢; 90 score 22¾¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh No. 1 American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12-14¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢.
(Prepared by Bureau of Agricultural Economics)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XLI, No. 54 Section 1 June 3, 1931

FEDERAL FINANCES

The Associated Press to-day says: "After Government finances had been discussed by President Hoover and his Cabinet yesterday, the White House announced the national debt would be increased $500,000,000 for the fiscal year ended June 30, because of falling revenue and increased expenditures.

"On the other hand, it was said Agriculture Department officials had informed the President that $11,000,000 would be saved this fiscal year and, probably, $20,000,000 next year from the department's appropriations.....

"The deficit, a White House statement said, will be approximately $900,000,000 to $950,000,000 for the year. Of this amount $440,000,000 will be due to the redemption of the public debt required by law, so that the actual increase in national indebtedness will amount to about $500,000,000. The deficit is due, it was said, principally to a falling off in Treasury receipts caused by the depression..."

COOK COUNTY FAILS TO MEET BONDS

A Chicago dispatch to-day states that Cook County defaulted yesterday its principal and interest payment of $1,868,400 bonds for lack of funds. The report says: "As in the 1930 financial disturbance, the underlying cause of muddled money matters was the delay in reassessment, ordered in 1928 by the State Tax Commission, placing collection of taxes two years behind the schedule....."

WESTERN FREIGHT RATES

A Chicago dispatch to the press of June 2 says: "At a meeting of presidents of western railroads at Chicago June 1, a resolution was passed approving a tentative report of vice presidents in charge of traffic calling for a horizontal increase in rates in western territory, so that after the necessary adjustments on certain classes of freight have been made, a yield of approximately 10 per cent more revenue will accrue. The presidents also voted to form a committee of seven to confer at a later date with a similar committee which the eastern roads have appointed for study of the rate situation. The southeastern roads also will be included in this conference....."

CANADIAN TARIFFS

The Baltimore Sun to-day says: "Lifting of the Canadian tariff wall through increases in rates on 174 items will have a direct effect on approximately $200,000,000 of American exports to that country or, on the basis of last year's foreign-trade figures, slightly less than one-third of what the Dominion buys in the United States, it was roughly estimated yesterday by Government economists.....The Department of Commerce yesterday issued a bulletin detailing eighty-one of the Canadian tariff increases 'of particular interest to American exporters' out of the 174 items.....Among the items listed were foodstuffs, automobiles valued in excess of $1,200, steel products, various types of machinery, watches, clocks, toys, coal and a variety of structural materials. In some cases, it was asserted, the Canadian rates have been raised to such a level that they virtually amount to an embargo....."

Section 2

American Institute of Co-operation

During the week of June 8 the American Institute of Cooperation will hold its seventh annual summer session on the campus of the Kansas State College of Agriculture at Manhattan. In addition to Secretary Arthur M. Hyde and James C. Stone, representing the Department of Agriculture and the Federal Farm Board, other prominent speakers will include C. O. Moser, New Orleans, vice president and secretary of the American Cotton Cooperative Association; B. H. Hibbard of Madison, Wisconsin, chairman of the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Wisconsin; Robin Hood, Washington, D. C., secretary-treasurer, National Cooperative Council; Nils A. Olsen, chief, Bureau of Agricultural Economics; Edward A. O'Neal, Montgomery, Alabama, president, American Farm Bureau Federation; C. B. Denman, Washington, member of the Federal Farm Board; E. J. Bell, Washington, grain specialist of the Federal Farm Board; E. G. Nourse, Washington, director of the Institute of Economics.

British Jam Regulations

The Field (London) for May 23 says: "Can anyone say just what jam is? No official standard for jam exists in this country. It may be the genuine produce of fresh fruit boiled with sugar, it may be a 'lucky dip' containing only one-fifth part of fruit, or it may be a concoction of stale foreign pulp, doctored with a chemical antiseptic and suitably colored to deceive the housewife. It is in the interests of fruit growers and consumers alike that this most unsatisfactory position should be cleared up. The first question that needs consideration is whether it is necessary or desirable that preserved fruit pulp should be imported into this country. The barrels are not an appetizing sight at the ports. The pulp itself, impregnated with sulphur dioxide, looks more like sludge from the bottom of a canal than the material from which jam should be made for our children. Yet we are assured by no less an authority than Doctor Addison, the present Minister of Agriculture and a former Minister of Health, that there is really nothing to worry about, since a dose of sulphur dioxide in jam is just as salutary as the old-fashioned brimstone and treacle. That may be, but jam is eaten as a wholesome conserve of fruit and sugar, and is not taken as an internal corrective! It is, indeed, an extraordinary mentality that will condone the foreigner's wholesale use of preservative in fruit pulp while forbidding the British farmer to use the merest trace of preservative in cream to keep it sweet in sultry weather. In any case, the plain man would assume that the Minister of Agriculture was particularly charged with looking after the interests of home producers, and that it might well be left to the foreigner to apologize for the defects of his products! This preserved pulp, imported from Russia, Holland, Germany, and other countries, has no proper place in our markets. There is an abundance of wholesome fresh fruit grown in our own orchards and fields.....Our own fruit falls to waste while jam manufacturers buy doctored pulp.....Yet we allow Russia to ruin the market by dumping thousands of tons of fruit pulp, grown by forced labor and prepared Heaven knows how!....The British Food Journal is rendering most useful service by ventilating this matter among health authorities, but does the housewife realize when she buys a pot of blackcurrant jam that it probably contains no more than 30 per cent of blackcurrant fruit? Yet this proportion satisfies the 'full fruit' standards which have lately been put forward by the Food Manufacturers' Federation. In second quality jams the total fruit content need not exceed 20 per cent or 3½ oz. per lb. of jam. It is evidently high time that fruit

growers and housewives took a hand in deciding the quality and purity of the jams sold in this country....."

City Populations

A Paris dispatch June 2 states that Greater Paris has become a city just short of 5,000,000 inhabitants, according to the first statistics of the census taken two months ago. In the city proper there are 2,871,039 residents, and in the suburbs 2,016,464. The city has increased in population by more than 32,000 since the last census was taken in 1926.

The latest census gives New York City a population of 6,930,446 and Chicago 3,376,438. London has 7,467,168 residents and Berlin 4,103.588.

Governors' Conference

A French Lick, Ind., dispatch June 2 reports: "Technical problems of taxation occupied the attention of more than a score of Chief Executives attending the opening session at French Lick on June 1 of the twenty-third conference of Governors. Govs. Wilber M. Brucker of Michigan and Harry H. Woodring of Kansas were the principal speakers at the morning session. During the round-table discussion in the afternoon Gov. Harry G. Leslie of Indiana outlined the 'Indiana plan' designed to reduce local taxation. The township organization is most States is obsolete and its abolishment would save money without reducing public service, Governor Woodring declared. He suggested also the elimination of overlapping functions of State, county, city and school officials in the interest of lowering governmental cost. Governor Brucker decried the multiplicity of local political subdivisions and urged that the States assist in the simplification of these units.....Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania, in explaining his interest in the subject of public utilities, declared that more than ninety per cent of the entire electrical power of the country is controlled by four groups and that the Mellon-Morgan interests control fifty-seven per cent of that amount. The utility question, he asserted, is the biggest problem before the country to-day. Governor Roosevelt of New York related that New York State has a gigantic hydro-electric project which is to provide a million and a quarter horsepower. 'This is to be used,' he said, 'not for the larger industrial plants but to provide cheaper electricity on the farms, in the homes, and for the smaller business establishments.'....."

Iceland Conditions

Iceland, with no army and no navy to burden taxpayers, was said by the Department of Commerce May 31 to have maintained a sound financial condition despite the world-wide depression. There was virtually no unemployment in the last year. Although the island was affected by the lower prices for fish, its principal product, a modern hospital was built at Reykjavik, the capital, and a large radio station, a number of school buildings and a system whereby water from a hot spring about two miles from Reykjavik is forced to the capital and utilized for heating several public buildings, were completed. (A.P., June 1.)

Seligman on Capitalism

Edwin R. A. Seligman, McVickar Professor of Political Economy at Columbia University, is interviewed for The Review of Reviews for June. The article says in part: "'It is the sheerest balderdash to say, merely because times are bad and Russia has a five-year plan, that capitalism is in danger. Capitalism is in its merest beginnings.' Capitalists have not always considered the speaker, Professor Edwin R. A. Seligman, as a friend. A graduate of Columbia in 1879, he went abroad for three years

to study at Berlin, Heidelberg, Geneva, and Paris. Forty-five years ago he returned to this country to begin a career as a teacher of economic fact to youth, and an adviser on economic principle to lawmakers.....Just past his seventieth birthday, Professor Seligman now surveys the troubled economic scene with dispassionate objectivity. But neither his long scholastic training nor the serenity of his years keeps him from having definite opinions on what is happening now, and what will happen in the future. With particular clarity he sees the task that faces the business man of to-day. Seated in the book-lined study of his apartment, high up over Central Park in New York City, he painted for the Review of Reviews the broad outlines of the economic panorama as he sees it. One may summarize the impressions of an hour's conversation as follows: 1. Capitalism suffers from glaring and blatant defects, which must be remedied by specific measures looking toward a strengthening of social responsibility. But— 2. The principles of capitalism accord more nearly with the facts and necessities of man's economic life than any other system. 3. Bolshevist Russia may, in the near future, surpass capitalist nations for a time, but in the end it will fail before a socialized capitalism. Professor Seligman bases his economic faith on the nature of man. 'You must give a man free reign to express himself,' he says, 'and you must give him the benefit of his own exertions. Man is so constituted that only in this way can he build up a workable economic society.' Once that principle is laid down, one comes to the other side of the picture. The men who practiced capitalism in the years since the industrial revolution have reflected the really low estate of civilization in which they lived. It has been a civilization which taught them how to produce but gave them hardly an inkling of responsibility toward their fellow men. Hence there began the strengthening of social responsibility in whose continuance Professor Seligman finds the hope of the future. It is a process which consists, on the one hand, in social legislation. On the other-- and this is far more vital to the health of capitalistic society-- it consists in independent effort in the same direction by capitalists themselves..."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 2.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.25-8.25; Cows, good and choice $4.25-5.25; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.75-7.85; Vealers: good and choice $8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle; Steers, good and choice $6-7; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.60-6.10; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.20; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.75-6.15; (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice(90 lbs. down) $9-10.50; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 77½-80½¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 80-81¢; Kansas City 73½-74½¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 73¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 55¾¢; Minneapolis 45½-46½¢; Kansas City 46-47¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 55¢; Minneapolis 47½-48½¢; St. Louis 56½¢; Kansas City 51-52¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 27¼¢; Minneapolis 23¾-24¼¢; Kansas City 27½-28¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes brought $3-3.75 per stave barrel in terminal markets. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-1.65 carlot sales per 100 lbs. in Chicago; mostly $1 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine Green Mountains $1.15-1.65 in the East. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks $1.40-1.50 carlot sales in Chicago. Virginia Pointed type cabbage 75¢-$1.25 per 1½-bushel hamper in the East. Mississippi Pointed type $2-2.25 per 100-lb. crate in a few cities. Virginia various varieties of strawberries $2-4.50 per 32-qt. crate in city markets; $1.50-2.50 f.o.b. Onley. Delaware and Maryland various varieties $4-4.50 per 32-qt. crate in the East; Missionarys and Premiers $2.50-4.50 f.o.b. Pocomoke City, Maryland. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.50-3 per standard crate of 45 melons in consuming centers; $1.15-1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions, standard crates and 50-lb. sacks, $1-1.50 in city markets; 75¢-$1 f.o.b. Laredo, Texas points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 18 points to 7.70¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the average of seven designated markets stood at 14.62¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 8.28¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 20 points to 8.32¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¼¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12-14¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Econ.).

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Vol. XLI, No. 55 Section 1 June 4, 1931

THE PRESIDENT INVITED TO LIVESTOCK PARADE

A Chicago dispatch to-day states that President Hoover was invited yesterday to review a parade of "low-priced, high-quality steaks, hams and chops on the hoof," which is to be staged on Michigan Boulevard June 18, the day after the President's address at the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial at Springfield, Ill. Plans for the spectacle were made yesterday afternoon at a meeting called to consider a way out of the "critical situation" brought about by low livestock prices, according to the press report.

FARM BOARD AND NEW WHEAT

The early and heavy movement of new crop wheat from the Southwest was said at the Farm Board yesterday to have prompted withdrawal of Government support from the June wheat market. Chairman Stone, of the board and George S. Milnor, president of the Grain Stabilization Corporation, in Chicago, agreed on this action in a telephone conversation after a day of sizeable wheat shipments from Texas. (A.P., June 4.)

FARM AID TRUST FOUNDED

A Concord, N.H., dispatch to-day says: "A trust for the benefit of agriculture and rural community life in New Hampshire, believed to be the first of its sort in the country to be established by a man who has made his livelihood on the farm, was founded at Concord yesterday by George Martin Putnam, 67-year-old president of the New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation. Mr. Putnam is also a director and member of the legislative committee of the American Farm Bureau Federation. The trust is to be known as the Putnam Agricultural Foundation, administered by a group of incorporators selected by the donor with complete powers even to the selection of their successors and headed by Governor John G. Winant....."

CANADIAN TARIFF EFFECTS

The effect of the upward revision of the Canadian tariff schedules will be definitely to imperil about $25,000,000 of American exports, or slightly less than 4 per cent of the value of shipments to the Dominion in 1930, Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, said yesterday, according to the press to-day. Doctor Klein's statement, made in response to requests for comments as to the significance of the new Canadian tariff from the American point of view, read: "The increased Canadian tariff definitely imperils approximately $25,000,000 of American exports. This represents slightly less than 4 per cent of the total of our exports to the Dominion in 1930. It is obvious from a study of the commodities involved that a considerable portion of the increases have been made in preparation for the coming conference on reciprocal tariffs among the British dominions, which is to take place next fall. Canada is obviously and quite naturally putting herself in a favorable position for these negotiations....."

Section 2

Business Conditions

Virgil Jordan, economist of the McGraw-Hill Company, writes on "The Road to Recovery" in System for June. He says: "The conference of American and foreign business leaders that ended last month disclosed a certain sober confidence that the corrective processes of depression had about run their course and that business was ready, at least in this country, to start off on the uphill road to recovery. There was no expectation that the pace of recovery would be rapid; rather that it would be a long pull, with the United States acting as the lead-horse.....The Federal Reserve Board's index of industrial production, together with some of the standard monthly indexes of business activity all of which make allowance for the usual or expected seasonal influences, have been rising slowly month by month since the beginning of the year. Under the general cloud of gloom, the changes from month to month have not been sensationally noticeable; but when we look back over the whole period since last December we suddenly realize that slowly but steadily something has been happening. Among the contributors to improvement have been certain old, unspectacular industries like cotton and wool textiles and shoes. Then, at the beginning of the second quarter, the April department store sales disclosed a marked improvement, and General Motors dealers sold almost as many cars to customers as in April a year ago. Residential building contracts and permits have been holding their own, with gradual improvement since the start of the year. To everyone's surprise, wheat prices have been stronger. In wheat and farm production generally 1931 looks like a bumper-crop year; and in spite of the fact that prices are low, this is good news. Farmers at least will have something to sell and to eat; and almost invariably a good crop year has marked the turn in periods of business depression. Most important of all, the Federal Reserve Banks have begun at last to act vigorously and aggressively to force an expansion of credit by the member banks throughout the country. Every recovery from depression has started this way, and it is a pity the process was so long and needlessly postponed.....These indications are not a forecast, and they do not give us a time-schedule. They are simply the result of reconnoitering on an unfamiliar road to find signs that will tell us where we are headed. The road ahead may be bumpy and muddy, but that doesn't matter so long as we are sure where we will come out."

Canadian Wheat Pool

A Winnipeg dispatch June 3 says: "A new movement is under way in western Canada for release of pool members from the contract clause not permitting them to sell on the open market, but would still hold them to delivering through pool elevators. Manitoba is already on this basis from June 1. Discussions are under way in Saskatchewan and Alberta of which the outcome is not yet clear, but points the same way. Conferences of the premiers of the three provinces, pool officials, and anti-pool men and others resulted in the request for some kind of wheat control board for Canada, which the Dominion Premier has not yet answered. The pool is merely seeking as yet some means of realizing the most cash possible for farmers at as early a date as possible. Dissolution as such has not yet figured in any news to date. In Manitoba now, the pool functions as a cooperative elevator company only."

Grain By-Products

New uses for surpluses of wheat and other grains are being made the subject of an exhaustive survey by the National Research Council of Canada. Two researches initiated are already yielding interesting

results. One of these is a study of the refuse screenings, largely weed seeds, which accumulate at the grain elevators at the head of the Great Lakes to the extent of more than 50,000 tons a year. At present these screenings, if marketable at all, bring almost nothing. The research is already indicating that they could be made to yield products-- oil for soap-making, fertilizer and possibly feed-- which would make them distinctly valuable, says a Canadian Government bulletin. In the other research a beginning has been made on the problem of finding methods of utilizing straw. The total amount of straw grown in Canada each year aggregates 50,000,000 tons, most of which is wasted. A careful study of the possibilities of using surplus grain for manufacture of fuel, alcohol, starch, dextrine, glucose and other sugars, acids and lacquer solvents by means of fermentation, oils, etc., is being made. This includes a study not only of the technical but also of the economic aspects.

Horses Versus Tractors

The Magazine of Wall Street for May 30 says: "'Did it ever occur to you that if we were still farming with horses and mules in this country,' queried the head of a large western corporation, 'we would not have this bothersome wheat surplus about which we have heard so much? Do you realize, also,' he added, 'that if our western farmers were using those animals for motive power they would have a far better chance to make money out of their wheat, even at the present low prices? Their cost of production would be greatly reduced. A part of the surplus,' he further observed, 'could be fed to the horses and mules. In return they would furnish ample motive power without additional cost, and a lot of valuable fertilizer besides. Now the western farmers pay from $600 to $1,200, and even more, for a tractor. You can't feed any surplus wheat to one of those things, but they do consume an awful lot of gas and oil, and maintenance charges are heavy. But modern farming on a large scale in the wheat-growing areas of the West involves the tying up of big sums of money, not only for tractors but also for combines. Those are the machines that cut, thresh and bag the wheat as they go along. They cost far more than the tractors and can be used only for the one purpose of harvesting the grain. That takes only a few days out of the 365 each year. All the rest of the time they are out of service, with depreciation charges going steadily and rapidly onward. The faithful horses and mules could furnish the motive power for binders such as were used before the combines came in-- and without extra cost.'....."

International Commerce

Carleton Beals writes in June Scribner's Magazine of the 26 "strategic products," listed by the Secretary of War as not found in sufficient quantities within the United States necessary to commerce and defense. Mr. Beals paints the picture of the world search and its dangers under the title "The Drag-Net of War." He says: ".....International commerce should minister to mankind's well-being; it should promote friendship between peoples; instead it is the Pandora box of war. Why does foreign barter involve injustice, danger, suspicion, misunderstanding, armed conflict? Why are great trading nations driven into militarism?.....Monopolistic governmental control of key products sets snags for these rival drag-nets, complicates the economic map. Our own tariff favors Philippine cocoanuts to the disadvantage of those from Ceylon. More direct official monopolies are set up. Sisal was long thoroughly monopolized by the governmental Comision Reguladora de Henequen of Yucatan. During the World War, we were held up for extortionate prices.

Yucatan wages rose rapidly; the henequen growers made larger profits..... The world struggle to-day is less for political domination than for economic supremacy. The modern state has not kept pace with the invisible industrial superstate. The new world empires of communications and business are almost completely divorced from social control. Nations and peoples have become the catspaws of vast new-trade empires whose entire diplomacy is secret and whose purposes, largely based upon private profit, do not rationally further mankind's needs. Not only products but human beings and whole peoples are caught squirming in the drag-net.....The new realms of international business, since they operate outside of any unified governmental control, can largely avoid public scrutiny into their operations, can carry on without any effective restraint beyond that dictated by the ambitions of audacious entrepreneurs. The whole purpose of production and distribution-- which should make living easier for mankind-- is entirely lost sight of in this anarchic competition. A beginning toward the proper control over the world's resources might be made with the rationalization of the production and distribution of a few key products, a rationalization not in the narrow technical efficiency sense but embracing all of the needs of those connected with the industry, the needs of the various nations, and the public at large. The most 'strategic products' should be removed from the war drag-net. By bringing a limited number of industries, those providing materials most essential for national defense, under more socialized control, we should be removing constant friction and fear and would be doing more for world peace than a baker's dozen disarmament conferences. The recent international sugar conference in Brussels shows that under the stress of economic disaster even private initiative will attempt to organize an industry on a world basis; but as the end pursued has no direct relation with human welfare but with the safeguarding of prices and investments for corporate profit, such efforts not only largely ignore the problem of distribution in relation to production, but founder on the rocks of national and individual self-interest.....Not merely private entrepreneurs but public representatives, not merely capital but labor, should bear the brunt of negotiations; and not merely one product but a number of products should be simultaneously brought under control, so that each nation would gain while making concessions....."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 3.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves, and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.50-8.50; Cows, good and choice $4.50-5.50; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $6.75-7.85; Vealers, good and choice $8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle; Steers good and choice $6-7; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.65-6.20; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.15; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.75-6.10 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $9-10.60; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 67½-69½¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 76-77¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 73¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 54½¢; Minneapolis 46-47¢; Kansas City 46-47¢; No. 3 yellow Corn Chicago 54½-55½¢; Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis 56¢; Kansas City 50-51¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 26¢; Minneapolis 23-5/8-24-1/8¢; St. Louis 28½¢; Kansas City 27½-28¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes brought $2.75-3.50 per stave barrel in the East. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-1.60 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢-$1 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.15-1.65 in eastern cities. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-1.50 per standard crate and 50 lb. sacks in consuming centers; 80¢-$1 f.o.b. Laredo and nearby points. Virginia various varieties of strawberries 8-13¢ per qt. in eastern cities; $2-4.50 per 32-qt. crate f.o.b. Hallwood and Onley. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.25-3.25 per standard 45s in consuming centers; $1.15-1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia Pointed type cabbage brought 90¢-$1.25 per 1½-bu. hamper in terminal markets.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in seven designated markets (holiday three markets) advanced 25 points to 7.86¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the average of the same seven markets was 14.52¢. New York July future contracts advanced 27 points to 8.55¢. New Orleans holiday.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12-14¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢. (Prepared by Bureau of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XLI, No. 56 Section 1 June 5, 1931

GOVERNMENT FINANCING

Subscriptions to the Treasury's offering on Monday of $800,000,000 in 3-1/8 per cent bonds totaled more than $6,000,000,000, or more than seven and one-half times the amount sought, Secretary Mellon announced yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "While a heavy oversubscription had been expected, Treasury officials were surprised at the tremendous demand, which was tekan to mean that there is a superabundance of idle cash in the country....."

FEDERAL ECONOMIES

Assurances were given at the White House yesterday that the Navy Department would join with the other departments of the Government in President Hoover's economy drive at the week-end conference at the Rapidan Camp, beginning Saturday morning, according to the press to-day.

VIRGINIA APPLE ADVERTISING

A Winchester, Va., dispatch to-day states that producers of approximately 1,000,000 barrels of apples in Virginia will sign agreements to finance an American and foreign advertising campaign on the basis of 2 cents per barrel by the opening of the 1931 season, it was indicated yesterday by Harry F. Byrd, president of the Virginia State Horticultural Society. The report says: "Mr. Byrd recently launched the foreign and domestic advertising plan at a meeting of the State society and followed it up a week or two ago at a directors' meeting in Staunton. Since then he has received pledges for 600,000 barrels, and he said yesterday he was confident the 1,000,000 mark would be reached and probably passed by the time the shipping season begins in the early fall. The campaign is to extend over a two-year period. Mr. Byrd said that, in addition to the American and foreign advertising campaign, the State society would also send representatives into southern markets for the purpose of reclaiming them as natural territory to Virginia growers. In late years, apples from the Pacific Northwest have made inroads in the South, and the Virginians now plan to 'go after' the southern trade on the ground that it rightfully belongs to them. It was also announced that Gov. Pollard has indicated his readiness to appoint as foreign representative the person so chosen by the State society....."

BRITISH DOLE CUT URGED

A London dispatch to-day states that a plan for a reduction of the British unemployed "dole" by $165,000,000 a year and an increase in the contributions to the unemployment insurance fund by $45,000,000 a year was recommended yesterday by a commission appointed by the MacDonald Government. The report says: "Despite a recommendation that employers, workers and the State pay 18 cents weekly into the existing fund, the commission said in an interim majority report that the budget of the fund still would not balance when there was an average of 2,500,000 persons unemployed. So the commission suggested a means whereby the present weekly deficit of nearly $5,000,000 could be reduced to around $35,000,000 in a year....."

Section 2

Cotton Week

Manufacturers Record for June 4 says: "This is National Cotton Week. Throughout the country, and especially in the Southern States, cotton is receiving perhaps its greatest acclaim. This is the result of organized effort to popularize cotton, to extend its present uses and develop new uses. The success of the movement is a credit to the power of constructive publicity. The cotton industry, however, to get lasting benefit from the wave of enthusiasm engendered by more than 11,000 local cotton celebrations and displays throughout the country, must persistently and consistently make known the advantages of cotton and its possibilities not only for wearing apparel and household uses, but for industrial purposes.....With the South producing more than half the world's raw cotton and 67 per cent of the domestic cotton goods output, it is necessarily more concerned than any other region of the country with the continued prosperity of the cotton industry. It is estimated that 10,000,000 people in the South are directly or indirectly dependent on cotton. The largest section of this group, of course, is the Southern cotton grower and tenant farmer. Some 45,000,000 acres, or about one-third of the South's crop area, are devoted to cotton growing. The average production of the last five years was 14,700,000 bales, with an average value including seed of $1,275,000,000. Approximately $2,000,000,000 is invested in the farm property which is necessary to produce this new wealth each year. The total amount invested in the southern cotton industry, including farm property, cotton mills, cotton gins, compresses and cottonseed oil mills, is well over $3,000,000,000. In the five-year period ending 1930, the average output of the cottonseed oil mills of the South was valued at $245,000,000. In southern cotton manufacturing alone the number of wage earners in 1929 was around 274,000. The value of the production of cotton mills in 11 Southern States in 1929 was over $967,000,000, or about 64 per cent of the country's total output....."

Danish Agriculture

An editorial in The Scottish Farmer for May 23 refers to a recently published report on "Economic Conditions in Denmark," by H. H. Cassells, commercial secretary of the British Legation at Copenhagen. The editorial comments on the report as follows: "Mr. Cassells states at the outset that there seems to be no limit to agricultural production in Denmark. Statistics show increases in exports as the years roll on, and the year 1930 was no exception, as very large increases were notified. Although prices fell considerably in the latter part of the year the total value of the exports was only slightly less than in 1929, being in value Kr. 1,230,000,000 against Kr. 1,285,000,000. Thus in 1930 agricultural products accounted for 81 per cent of the total exports, and the income derived from them was only 5 per cent less than in 1929, although the price of bacon had dropped 40 per cent and prices of cereals, eggs, meat and fat cattle by 20 to 30 per cent. In reality this would have been disastrous if the prices of primary products had not also dropped. The price of maize fell by 33 per cent, and although the ratio between its cost and the price of bacon was 10 per cent less favorable than in 1929, it was still superior to the 1913 figure. As was to be expected, Denmark took advantage of the cheap grain which was seeking markets in Europe, and actually imported 4,200,000 metric cwt. of barley as compared with 390,000 cwt. in the previous year. While Denmark thus gained a certain advantage by the cheapening of these primary products, there is considerably anxiety amongst farmers, for the prices of their products is tending to fall

commensurately, while taxes, wages and general working expenses remain stationary. Analyzing the exports it is found that butter and bacon are the most prominent and of almost equal magnitude. The fluctuations in the prices of pig products cause the Danish farmer as much anxiety as his British contemporary. Encouraged by the good prices in Britain in the early part of 1930 breeding was intensive in Denmark, and the July census showed an increase of 36 per cent over that of 1929. When the prices collapsed on the British market, there were actually 150,000 being slaughtered weekly in Denmark, and owing to the necessity of finding cash for the customary mortgages there was actually an increase in killing instead of a slackening. The question of control of production has become urgent, and it is viewed with such seriousness that an additional census was taken at the end of 1930, and there is actually a further increase of 6 per cent since July. It is expected, however, that production has now reached its peak, and that in the future there will be some decline....."

Drought Loans

An editorial in The Southern Cultivator for June 1 says: "President Hoover states that of $67,000,000 appropriated for drought relief $47,000,000 had been loaned to 380,000 persons. This, he said, probably would consummate the drought relief program. Of the $10,000,000 set aside for the stabilization of agricultural credit corporations only $471,000 had been called for, he said. A total of $39,000,000 was loaned for seed and fertilizer and $5,140,000 for rehabilitation purposes. Despite the amounts that have been loaned, as stated by the President, there is a note of cheer in the information, for in years past the chances are that every cent that was set apart for loans would have been taken and there would have been a clamor for more. It is evident that farmers all over the country are realizing that they are better off if they can squeeze through tight places and hard times without securing loans that bring only temporary relief and leave them with a debt that eats up their earnings as fast as they are made. More southern farmers than ever before are raising their own food and feed this year, and by getting through until fall without borrowing money or going into debt at the supply store, will have real cash this fall when they sell their crops, be the prices high or low."

East African Sisal

The export of sisal from Kenya Colony for the month of February, 1931, totaled 1,144 tons. Of this quantity 196 tons went to Great Britain, 705 to Belgium, 188 to America, 40 to Italy, and 15 to South Africa. (African World, May 23.)

Installment Buying

An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for May 30 says: "The financing of public improvements through bond issues is to public finance what installment buying is to the individual. Wisely used it can be of real value in improving public service and in acquiring capital improvements. Abused it can plunge a taxing district into the morass of public debt, stifle progress and burden taxpayers to a point where current expenditures must be sacrificed to pay interest on obligations incurred years before. The State, county, or municipality, like the individual, has only about so much income. That income, like the income of the individual, fluctuates with the times. Plunging too deeply into debt means much of the current income must be used to meet interest charges, and when that income shrinks it often is not sufficient to meet these interest charges, let alone provide for current necessities. This is the situation many taxing districts, especially local taxing districts, find themselves in

to-day. Like many individuals they over-bought on the time plan. To-day with revenues shrinking the proportion of fixed obligations to current income is too high. A period of tightening the belt until the debt is reduced is in order and the only remedy. Then just as individuals everywhere are doing let's not contract for any greater obligations than we know we can pay for. Under the circumstances the decision of the legislature not to submit the $25,000,000 welfare program bond issue proposed by Governor White is wise. The decision of the legislature to submit instead a $5,000,000 bond issue is much more likely to be justifiable. That can not be told until the present legislature has adjourned and we have had an opportunity to appraise the results of the tax program which it enacts."

Meat Situation

Cattle prices dropped during May to the lowest level in twenty years as dressed beef prices continued to decline, according to a review of the livestock and meat situation issued June 1 by the Institute of American Meat Packers. A comparison of wholesale prices of some meats at the present time with one year ago show the following percentage declines: dressed beef, 30 to 35 per cent lower, according to grade and weight; dressed veal, 33 per cent lower; smoked hams, 16 to 36 per cent lower, according to weight; smoked picnics, 35 per cent lower. The domestic trade in pork products was fair during the month. Prices were generally somewhat lower in May than in April and showed a declining tendency toward the close. Sales of cooked ham and sausage showed the usual seasonal increase. As a result of the declining prices of pork and pork products, prices of hogs went lower during the period and in the fourth week approached the low point since 1908. The export trade in meats was rather quiet during the month. Demand for dressed lamb was only fair during the month and prices were weak. The wool market was rather quiet and prices moved lower. In the first part of May there was a decline in prices of hides. However, before the close of the month prices strengthened and demand was better.

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 4.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.50-8.50; Cows, good and choice $4.75-6; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $7-8.25; Vealers, good and choice $8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice $6-7; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.75 to 6.30; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.25; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.75-6.10 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8.50-10.35; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices quoted: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 69-7/8-71¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 73-74¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 65-66¢; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 47-48¢; Kansas City 47-48¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 55½-55¾¢; Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis 56-56½¢; Kansas City 51-52¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 26-27½¢; Minneapolis 24-1/8-24-5/8¢; St. Louis 29¢; Kansas City 28¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged $2.75-3.25 per stave barrel in the East. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-1.60 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; mostly 90-95¢ f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.15-1.75 per 100 lbs. in eastern cities. Virginia various varieties of strawberries brought 8-14¢ per qt. in city markets; Heflins $1.50-2; Premiers $1.75-3.50 and Big Joes $4.50-5 per 32-qt. crate f.o.b. Onley. Delaware various varieties $3-4.50 per crate in Philadelphia; Missionarys and Premiers $3.50-5.50 f.o.b. Selbyville. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-1.50 per standard crate and 50-lb. sack in consuming centers; mostly 80¢-$1 f.o.b. Texas points. California Salmon Tint cantalcupes $2.50-3 per standard crate of 45 melons in city markets, mostly $1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia pointed type cabbage 40-90¢ per 1½-bu. hamper in terminal markets. Mississippi stock $2-2.25 per crate of approximately 100 lbs. in Pittsburgh.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 30 points, compared with the average of seven markets previous day, to 8.16¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 14.71¢, average of the ten markets. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 18 points to 8.73¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exhcange advanced 45 points to 8.77¢, as compared with June 2. (June 3, holiday.)

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12-14¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XLI, No. 57 Section 1 June 6, 1931

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

The Washington Post to-day says: "Uncle Sam was pictured by President Hoover yesterday as an employer who not only has been unperturbed by the Nation-wide business depression, but who has provided jobs for thousands on thousands of persons. Almost 1 per cent of the population of the Nation soon will be employed on Government work, according to figures announced by President Hoover. These figures, however, included an estimate of the number of persons employed by private business concerns in the multifarious ramifications incident to the Government building program. The end of the last calendar year, President Hoover estimated, found 235,000 persons employed in connection with the Government construction program. There were now 655,000 persons so employed, he estimated, and predicted that by September there would be 805,000 engaged in such work. These totals included such persons as were employed in steel mills, where steel beams for Government buildings are made, and other private employment.."

UNEMPLOYMENT COSTS

The Associated Press to-day says: "An estimate that a combination of wage cuts, part-time employment and unemployment has cost workers more than $2,500,000,000 in wages to date in 1931 was announced last night by the American Federation of Labor. Both President Green, of the federation, and Secretary of Labor Doak said separately yesterday, however, that the losses due to wage cuts-- known to have effected more than 125,000 workers in factories alone-- had not been caused by large employers of labor....."

HIGHWAY PROJECTS

A New York dispatch to-day states that a billion and a half dollar road building program is being carried out in America this year, the American Automobile Association reported June 5 following a national survey. The report says: "More than 60,000 miles of highway will be improved in the 45 States covered by the survey. Louisiana's plans for the year call for improvement of 3,200 miles, the association found. New York State ranks second to Louisiana, with a proposed expenditure of $60,000,000. Illinois and Pennsylvania follow closely. The total expenditures exceed those of 1930 by millions. It is expected this Nation-wide boom of road building will provide jobs for many now unemployed."

MOUNT KISCO COW WINS PRIZE

The press of June 4 states that Cancalaise, a 9-year-old purebred Jersey cow owned by Carl J. Tucker of Mount Kisco, N. Y., received the president's cup of the American Jersey Cattle Club June 3 at the annual meeting at New York. The trophy is awarded to the purebred Jersey cow with best yearly record of butterfat production. The report says: "Cancalaise last year produced 1,072.37 pounds of butterfat and 18,822 pounds of milk, a yield with which she broke the national butterfat production record for imported Jersey cows for the second time....."

Section 2

Chinese Agriculture

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for June 6 presents interesting information on farming in China. It says in part: ".....The average Chinese farm, which is six or seven acres in size, usually keeps two men busy. Scarcely any of the farms have a horse, but about one-half of them have a donkey and about one-half of them have one ox. The other livestock population consists on the average of seven chickens, two sheep and one hog. With so little livestock, the problem of maintaining soil fertility in China has been very difficult and while all of the human manure has been saved very carefully, the fertility of Chinese soils is really not so very high after all. For example, the average wheat yield is only fifteen bushels per acre and the average corn yield only twelve bushels. The soybean yield, while it runs up to twenty bushels in some localities, only averages twelve bushels. The best record is made with rice, which averages fifty-two bushels. To get these rather modest yields the Chinese farmers use a terrific amount of labor. On an acre of wheat, for instance, the Chinese spend about 240 hours of man labor and eighty hours of ox or donkey labor.....The food eaten by the Chinese farmers is greatly different to that eaten by American farmers. We eat forty times as much in the way of dairy products, meat and eggs, fifty times as much in the way of sugar and thirty times as much fruit. The consumption of vegetables is about the same. The Chinese have their advantage when it comes to the consumption of seeds. Ninety per cent of their food comes from such seeds as rice, kaoliang, millet, soybeans, etc.....The average Chinese family contains about six people and spends about $60 a year for food, $10 for fuel and $8 for clothing. Those farmers who are Christians spend $1.50 a year for the church, which is just about the same percentage of the Chinese farm income as the $28 a year spent by the average American farmers for religious purposes is of American farm income. The really expensive things are funerals and weddings, which cost about $25 each, and if a Chinese family is unlucky enough to have both of these in the same year, it will probably take several years to pay off the debt incurred....."

Farm Ownership in Georgia

An editorial in The Southern Cultivator for June 1 says: "In an address delivered in Macon, Ga., last month Governor Hardman suggested that the plantation owners of Georgia aid in the development of the State's idle lands by setting off 100-acre tracts and giving them to people who will cultivate them, stating that he was ready to follow his own suggestion. The great need of the Southeast is thousands upon thousands of more small farm owners, but we doubt if the suggestion of Georgia's generous Governor would amount to anything more than a temporary occupancy of these gift farms by the major portion of farmers who were so fortunate as to receive them. There are plenty of farms in the Southeast so low in price that any worth-while farmer, who has suffered through one-crop operations to the point that he has learned the importance of diversification of crops, the raising of livestock and 'living at home,' can negotiate a deal that will put him into the owner class on a basis that will enable him to pay out in a reasonable length of time. The Federal land banks and mortgage loans companies have titles to many such farms, while numerous non-resident city owners of farm lands would be glad to get away from the tenant-cropper, no-revenue operation of their property through a reasonable sales deal with a progressive, up-to-date farmer who had confidence enough in his ability to make a success through the use of improved farming methods....."

Radio Noise Modification

A Copenhagen dispatch June 5 states that the International Radio Congress hopes to take unnecessary noise out of radios. The congress, with delegates from thirty-three countries, including the United States, appointed a committee June 4 to investigate means of counteracting interference in radio by noises from vehicles and machinery. The committee was instructed to collect reports from all countries as the basis of a plan to be laid before the congress session in Madrid in 1933.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The New York Times of June 4 says: "A New York fur dealer asserts that his preparation of oil made from the fat of polecats is a specific for inner and outer maladies peculiar to horses, and the Department of Agriculture has disagreed with him. On the merits of the controversy no opinion is herein expressed. But one statement made by Dr. H. E. Moskey of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, in disputing the claims of skunk oil, 'brings hope with it and forward-looking thoughts.' 'There is a somewhat general opinion,' says the Government scientist, 'that any medical preparation which smells or tastes bad has some magical curative power. This idea as such is entirely without foundation.' Then ten million huzzas from as many small boys and a general tossing up of hats from all who are ever ailing. From the beginnings of medicine, people protesting against pouring ill-smelling and evil-tasting messes down their throats have done so on the assurance of the practitioner that it was 'good for them.' The worse the smell and taste, the human race has long been assured, the purer and more efficacious the product. Tom Sawyer once debated this question with Aunt Polly, and lost. His unforgetable revenge was practiced on the cat. Had Tom heard of Doctor Moskey he might have quoted that savant successfully....."

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XLI, No. 58 Section 1 June 8, 1931

GOVERNMENT ECONOMIES

An Orange, Va., dispatch June 7 says: "A total saving by the Navy Department of about $25,000,000 of the monies already appropriated for the service was reported to have been guaranteed to President Hoover by department officials at the fifth economy conference at the Rapidan camp Saturday. The sum of $10,000,000 has been saved in the appropriations for the fiscal year just closing, according to figures presented to the President. An additional $15,000,000 saving is in prospect as a result of a plan worked out by the President, Secretary Adams and the other naval officials who took part in Saturday's conference....."

GERMAN-BRITISH CONFERENCE

A London dispatch June 7 states that Chancellor Bruening and Foreign Minister Curtius of the German Republic went to Chequers, the country residence of the British Prime Minister, for a two-day conference with Premier MacDonald and British Foreign Minister Henderson over international questions.

A London dispatch to-day says: "The Chequers conversations which ended yesterday between Chancellor Bruening and Foreign Minister Curtius of Germany on the one side and Premier MacDonald and Foreign Minister Henderson, have been successful in a measure. The official report of the conversations shows that both parties are agreed that there must be 'international cooperation' to solve the present economic difficulties. Soon after the guests had returned from Chequers the Foreign Office issued a statement which both the British and German Governments had agreed upon as their official report to the world of what they had been talking about. After stating that the German Ministers had stressed their country's need for financial alleviation and the British Ministers had called attention to the effect of the world-wide depression on their own country, the joint communique concluded with its most significant passage, as follows: 'Both parties were agreed that, in addition to efforts and measures of a national character, the revival of confidence and prosperity depended upon international cooperation. In this spirit both governments will endeavor to deal with the present crisis in close collaboration with the other governments concerned.'....."

A Berlin dispatch June 7 says: "The German government, decreeing June 5 new taxes totaling approximately $400,000,000 upon its people, described the measure as 'one last effort' and declared that the financial position of the country 'calls imperatively for alleviation of the unbearable reparations obligations.'....."

THE STOCK MARKET

The New York Times to-day says: "In the recovery which began on the Stock Exchange last Wednesday, and which in two days regained for the 'averages' about half of the 22 per cent loss from the high point of May, there were several interesting aspects. One was the fact that the turn came at the moment when people were saying it would never come. Another was the instantaneous reversion from the previous mood of black despair; indicating that much of the community's hopeless pessimism had been inference, not from facts alone but from the course of stocks....."

Section 2

Child Education Cost

It costs 60 cents a day to educate a child in the average city public school. The Bureau of Education of the Interior Department, after gathering statistics from a representative group of cities, said yesterday that the average annual cost for each child is $108.87. The figures included teachers' services for nine months, heat, janitors' services, and in most instances school supplies, books and library facilities.

European Nitrate Parley

A Paris dispatch to-day states that after a brief preliminary meeting, the world nitrate conference has adjourned until June 12. European synthetic producers from nine countries will hold a session next Tuesday and it is hoped that the differences which now divide them will be overcome in time to resume the world negotiations three days later. Meanwhile, both the synthetic and the natural nitrate interests have agreed to postpone the selling of futures until June 15 so that sales are not arranged beyond the termination of the nitrate year at midnight June 30.

Food Developments

C. A. Browne, of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, presents an appreciation of Willard Dell Bigelow in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry for June, in which he says: "The personnel files of our Federal bureaus show many instances of chemists who, after demonstrating exceptional fitness for certain lines of work, have stepped from their stations in the Government service to higher salaried positions of industrial importance. The resignation of so many competent experts for this cause has been a source of anxiety to department officials, although they have recognized that this loss is attended with a certain compensation in helping to establish more intelligent relations between the Government and industry, with a consequent strengthening of the entente cordiale. The benefits which result from this interchange of Governmental and industrial activities can find no better illustration than in the career of Willard Dell Bigelow.....In 1913, when Bigelow resigned his position with the Bureau of Chemistry to become chief chemist, and subsequently director of the research laboratories of the National Canners Association, there was no chemist in the United States who possessed such extensive practical knowledge in matters relating to the chemistry, technology, and regulatory control of foods.....The career of Bigelow has coincided with some of the most important developments in the history of food and nutrition. Indeed, the future student of these subjects will mark the first quarter of the twentieth century as a period of outstanding importance. In this period the dietary habits of the American people underwent an important change, the per capita consumption of milk, fruits, vegetables, and sugar having greatly increased and that of cereals having declined. In this period the vitamins were discovered and the importance of minute traces of certain mineral constituents in the diet was first realized. It was this period that witnessed the passage of the Federal pure food law and saw the regulatory control of foods established for the first time upon an effective basis. It was in this period also that the technic of preserving fruits and vegetables underwent a great reform with a vast improvement in the quality and healthfulness of all canned foods. To have lived in such a time as this has been a privilege, but to have taken a prominent part in the realization of its accomplishments has been an honor deserving of the widest recognition....."

Foot and Mouth Disease in Rhodesia

The African World for June 4 states that the reported serious outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Southern Rhodesia is minimized in an official communication to the press. The disease, it is officially stated, is of the mildest possible character. The mortality is negligible; in some herds it is nil, and in some it does not exceed 1 per cent.

Home Economics

Lillian B. Storms, of the Fremont Canning Company of Fremont, Mich., writes in Journal of Home Economics for June of professional requirements of dieticians in modern work. She says in part: ".....During the past ten years the dietetic treatment of the patient has become one of the most important therapeutic measures carried out in the hospital. The hospital holds the dietitian responsible for the proper filling of dietary prescriptions, as well as for the efficient administration of the dietary department. Consequently, she must have a thorough knowledge of physiological chemistry and nutrition, as well as practical experience in applying this knowledge to the needs of the hospital, before she can become proficient in diet-therapy. It is not possible for a two-year course in home economics to prepare dietitians adequately for present-day hospital needs in the Government services any more than it would be possible in civilian hospitals. Government dietitians, like those in civilian hospitals, serve as clinical and administrative dietitians. It is essential that they have the personality, training, and experience to interest and instruct patients regarding individual dietary needs. Another reason for insistence on an adequate educational background is the fact that vacancies in the higher administrative positions are filled from within the service....."

Iowa's Literacy Standing

The Associated Press to-day says: "Iowa holds the low illiteracy record among the 33 States for which census returns now are available. Despite low figures turned in for other States, the Iowa mark of 0.08 per cent illiterates has successfully withstood competition. The national advisory committee on illiteracy announced yesterday that only 15,879 Iowans above 10 years of age could not read and write. Of these, 777 were Negroes, 5,932 foreign-born whites and 9,177 native whites."

Stamp on Grain Futures

An Ottawa dispatch June 5 says: "Future trading in the grain trade was vindicated, in part, in the report of the board of inquiry, headed by Sir Josiah Stamp, British economist, presented June 4 in the House of Commons. While noting the distrust of farmers in the futures system and that dealing in futures might encourage minor price oscillation, the report expressed the view that the system as a whole benefited the producer by furnishing insurance for the handling of his grain and by providing an ever-ready and convenient means of marketing, and that it gave a price advantage to the farmer....."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 5.--Livestock prices at Chicago: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.50-8.50; Cows, good and choice $4.75-6; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $7-8.25; Vealers, good and choice $8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice $6-7; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.90-6.35; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.15-6.40; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $5.90-6.25; (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8.50-10.25; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 72-5/8-74-5/8¢; No. 2 red winter Chicago 76¢; St. Louis 73-74¢; Kansas City 67-69¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 68-68½¢; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 47-48¢; Kansas City 47-49¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 56¢; Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis 57-57½¢; Kansas City 51-52¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 27¢; Minneapolis 24-3/8-24-7/8¢; St. Louis 29½¢; Kansas City 28½¢.

South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged $2.50-3.25 per stave barrel in the East. Alabama and Louisiana sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.50-1.60 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; mostly 90¢ f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.25-2 in eastern cities. Virginia Pointed type cabbage 35¢-90¢ per 1½-bu. hamper in terminal markets. Mississippi stock $1.75-2 per crate of approximately 100 lbs. net in Chicago; fair 70-75¢ f.o.b. Crystal City. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2.50-3 per standard 45s in consuming centers; $1.25 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-1.40 per standard crate and 50 lb. sack in city markets. Virginia various varieties of strawberries 9-17¢ per quart in city markets; Big Joes $4-6 per 32-qt. crate in Makamie Park, Delaware and Maryland various varieties $3.75-6 in the East; Premiers $2.50-4.25; Missionarys $2-4 and Gandys $5.25-6.25 f.o.b. Pocomoke City, Maryland.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 20 points to 7.96¢ per pound. On the same day one year ago the price stood at 14.59¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 18 points to 8.55¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 25 points to 8.52¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23½¢; 91 score, 23¢; 90 score, 22½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12-14¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Economics.)

DAILY DIGEST

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VOL. XLI, No. 59 Section 1 June 9, 1931

THE SECRETARY ON ECONOMIC PRODUCTION

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Manhattan, Kans., reports: "Secretary of Agriculture Hyde told American farmers last night that their plans for production must start with consideration of the economic demands of the market. He addressed the American Institute of Cooperation. 'To-day the American farmer demands an American standard of living,' the Secretary said. 'Such a standard of living is possible. Indeed, we must attain it. But the farmer himself must not defeat it. His production plans must start with consideration of the economic demands of the market. Adhering to that procedure all along the line, we can then organize agriculture so that the American farmer can reach the golden goal of economic equality.' The intelligence, thrift, industry and efficiency of the American farmer 'is great enough to meet and defeat the world in producing any of our great agricultural crops,' he went on. 'But to do so they will have to sell on world markets at world prices. That means that southern planters shall measure their living standards against those of India and China, and that wheat growers must meet Russian standards of living. Boiled down, we can probably continue to produce tobacco, lard and to some extent pork, rice, apples and citrus fruits for export market, and, unless foreign expansion becomes too great, sell them at a profit. By reducing our costs and producing a higher quality of cotton, we can probably maintain our foreign market.'"

COTTON IN STORAGE

The press to-day reports: "The surplus cotton being kept off the market at an annual cost of about $4,000,000 to the Government will be kept in storage indefinitely, it was announced on behalf of the Federal Farm Board yesterday by Carl Williams, member of the board for cotton. 'The cotton is not for sale at present prices,' Mr. Williams said. This announcement of the Farm Board's policy was not given any definite time limit, the intimation being that the cotton would be held until prices improve. Cotton now is at the lowest level in 25 years, with the exception of the drop at the outbreak of the World War in 1914....."

PAISH ON CONDITIONS

World-wide economic disaster which, he said, could only be mitigated but could not be avoided was predicted as a result of the economic depression by Sir George Paish in an address yesterday at the annual meeting of the Welfare Council at New York, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Sir George, governor of the London School of Economics and former economic adviser to the British Government, declared that only the closest cooperation of all nations in an effort to stem the forces of economic and financial dissolution could ameliorate to some degree the catastrophe which he feared... Sir George predicted greater distress in America and in other countries in this coming winter 'than we have witnessed in modern times' and urged timely preparation of relief measures. He advocated unemployment insurance as the only means of averting revolution in countries which, like Great Britain, had been suffering from chronic unemployment....."

Section 2

Canadian Wheat Export

An Ottawa dispatch June 7 says: "Canada supplied China with more than two million bushels of wheat in 1930, representing approximately 35 per cent of that country's total imports of wheat. Australia supplied 45 per cent and the United States 20 per cent. The figures are given in a report on wheat trade of China to the Department of Trade and Commerce by Bruce A. MacDonald, assistant Canadian Trade Commissioner at Shanghai."

Grapefruit for Belgium

A Brussels dispatch June 7 says: "There is a great demand for grapefruit here and American growers may lay down large acreages, certain that their produce will be eagerly consumed. Whether the demand has been created by clever propaganda or by an accidental discovery the fact stands out that grapefruit has received the medical palm as a fat reducer. The tip was first given out in horse-racing circles, where jockeys have abandoned Turkish baths and india-rubber belts in favor of grapefruit before breakfast....."

Hawaiian Wild Life

A Honolulu dispatch June 7 says: "Eradication of destructive wild animals on the various islands is assuming greater proportions each year. Under the direction of the Board of Agriculture and Forestry, hunters scour the mountain ranges and the forest reserves in search of goats, pigs, sheep, donkeys and cattle. Periodical goat drives are organized in which scores of volunteers take part, the most recent, in the area east of Kilauea Volcano last week, netting 2,500 head. Figures for the last biennium, appearing in the report of the Board of Agriculture and Forestry, show eradication as follows: Goats, 25,978; pigs, 6,610; sheep, 7,672; cattle, 376; donkeys, 45. Efforts are being continued to reduce the number of wild goats, estimated at 75,000 still at large on the Island of Hawaii as well as several thousand wild sheep on the slopes of the extinct volcano of Mauna Kea."

Locusts in Africa

A five-year campaign against locusts in Africa has been organized by the British Imperial Institute of Entomology, with the support of the Empire Marketing Board, and three experts will leave England this summer to locate the breeding grounds in the Sudan and Kenya, to which the insects retire between their periods of active swarming. The immediate stimulus to this inquiry is the damage wrought since 1929 by one particular species of locust in Kenya, Tanganyika, Iraq, and Palestine. In Kenya alone the damage is estimated at between 100,000 and 200,000 pounds .....(African World, May 23.)

Muscle Shoals

Jose Bornn, jr., writes on "Business and Political Aspects of Muscle Shoals," in Barron's for June 8. He says in part: ".....Remember that the whole Muscle Shoals development was undertaken when there was no production of fixed nitrogen in this country, and when our foreign supply on which we were entirely dependent, was in imminent danger of being cut off completely. That situation does not exist to-day. Nitrate fixation in this country has since become an established industry. Data compiled by the Fixed Nitrogen Laboratory of the United States Department of Agriculture show that though production of fixed nitrogen in this country started only in 1919, when 276 tons were manufactured under more or less experimental conditions, by 1928 actual commercial production had risen 28,000 tons. In the next year the commercial fixation of nitrogen took vertical leap to 88,000 tons. And the capacity of fixed-nitrogen plants in the United States at the end of 1929 had risen to 138,000 tons per

annum. By the end of 1932, it is expected to be still further enlarged to 300,000. That this huge development by private enterprise has gone on in the face of the unsettlement due to the constant threat of either Government competition at Muscle Shoals or private competition heavily subsidized by the Government, is due largely to the improvements which have been made in the processes for the fixation of nitrates, improvements which have eliminated the importance of electric power as a cost item. The reduction in manufacturing costs through the various synthetic processes that have been developed is so great, in other words, that private enterprise no longer fears either Government operation or heavily-subsidized private operation of the Muscle Shoals nitrate plants as they are equipped to-day. Moreover, responsible officials of the Government, giving expert testimony before various congressional committees investigating the question, have gone on record as saying that the Muscle Shoals plants are neither acceptable for the production of fertilizer ingredients nor essential in the maintenance of national defense. The War Department, in fact, says that it will look to the fixed-nitrogen industry for its nitrates in the future just as it looks to the steel industry for its steel....."

Strawn on Conditions

An Ottawa, Ill., dispatch June 7 states that Silas H. Strawn of Chicago, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, speaking June 6 at La Salle County's centennial celebration, asserted that signs of economic recovery were already on the horizon. He saw a danger in Russian "dumping" and denounced.....the assertion that the wealth of the country was concentrated in the hands of a few men. In the last fifty-five years there have been seven depressions and from all of them this country has recovered, going on to greater prosperity and higher standards of living, Mr. Strawn said.

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for June 6 says: "There has been a slightly broader movement in wool, both in the East and West, due to the wider shearing movement of the new clip. At the seaboard there have been some new-clip fine and half-blood fleece wools sold in addition to territory and Texas wools of similar grade at prices which are barely up to last week's level. Medium wools continue rather neglected and weak. A further decline of better than 3 cents in top futures for the week has not helped the market, notwithstanding the fact that wool consumption is now at the highest point for a year or more. Foreign markets are generally dull and easier. The East India wools at the auction in Liverpool this week declined 10 to 15 per cent from previous closing rates."

Yellow Plant Values

A New Haven, Conn., dispatch June 7 says: "The revelation that yellow plant pigment, termed carotene, contains the equivalent of vitamin A, the food factor abundant in butter, was made June 6 by Dr. Lafayette B. Mendel, Sterling professor of physiological chemistry at Yale University. Speaking at the plant scientists' conference of Rhode Island and Connecticut, Doctor Mendel said yellow corn is more effective than white varieties, the yellow sweet potato is richer than the ordinary white potato, and the yellow carrot abounds in something that can avert the lack of vitamin A in the dietary."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 8.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.75-8.90; Cows, good and choice $5-6.25; Heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $7.25-8.65; Vealers, good and choice $8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle; Steers, good and choice $6-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.50; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.20-6.45; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.35 (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8.25-9.75; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark norther spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 70¼-72¼¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 75-76¢; Kansas City 71½-75½¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 72¢; No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 47-48¢; Kansas City 48½-49½¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 56¼¢; Minneapolis 49-50¢; St. Louis 56-56½¢; Kansas City 51-52¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 27¼-27½¢; Minneapolis 24-24½¢; Kansas City 29-29½¢.

North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes $1.75-2.85 per stave barrel in terminal markets; $1.75-1.90 f.o.b. Mount Olive, North Carolina. Alabama and Lousiana sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.45-1.55 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; 90¢ f.o.b. Mobile, Alabama. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.25-1.85 in a few eastern cities. Virginia Pointed type cabbage 50¢-$1 per 1½-bu. hamper in the East. Tennessee Pointed type $1.25-1.75 per crate of 60 lbs. in the Middle West. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-1.50 per standard crate and 50 lb. sack in consuming centers. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2-3 per standard crate of 45s in city markets; $1-1.15 f.o.b. Brawley. Virginia Various Varieties of strawberries 10-12¢ per qt. in New York City. Delaware and Maryland stock $2.50-3.50 per 32-qp. crate in Philadelphia; $2-4.25 f.o.b. Selbyville, Delaware.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets advanced 9 points to 7.83¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 13.93¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 7 points to 8.38¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 11 points to 8.43¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¢; 91 score, 22½¢; 90 score, 22¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12½-14½¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¼¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Economics.)

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VOL. XLI, No. 60 Section 1 June 10, 1931

FEDERAL SCIENTISTS PLAN COORDINATION

The press to-day states that initial steps in a proposed study of the progress made by technical, professional and scientific Government workers were taken yesterday at the first meeting of the Council of Personnel Administration created by Executive order, April 25, 1931, and made up of departmental representatives. The meeting was held at the office of the Civil Service Commission. Thomas E. Campbell, president of the Civil Service Commission and chairman of the council, presided. The report says: "The initial inquiry will be confined to the 15,000 or more professional, scientific and technical workers of the Government, it was announced. One of the hoped-for results of the inquiry is to operate the various departments, so far as personnel is concerned, less as independent organizations and more as component parts of a large organization. Upon the basis of the information finally secured, it is expected to provide for greater flexibility in personnel administration and more uniformity in personnel practices in the numerous Government establishments."

KLEIN BELIEVES DEPRESSION ENDED

A Chicago dispatch to-day says: "The depression in business has ended, Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, told the Radio Manufacturers' Association yesterday. In fact, he declared at the open meeting of the association, the first of its trade show week, that the low point was hit last January. When the upward swing of the cycle would begin, he did not care to predict, but he pointed out that there has been somewhat of a rise since January, with business that month 34 per cent below normal, compared with 30 per cent in April. Because of the fact that this depression came gradually rather than with the suddenness of those of the past, he looked for a rather speedy recovery....."

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

More than twice the number of aliens left the United States during April than were admitted as immigrants. Departures totaled 7,544, of which 1,897 were deportations. Immigrants totaled 3,470 or less than one-sixth of the number admitted during April, 1930. (A.P., June 5.)

ECONOMIC LOSS FROM SUNBURN

The New York Times to-day says: "Hope that a realization of the great economic loss resulting from the sun tan fad might discourage the fashion, was expressed yesterday by Dr. Charles F. Pabst, chief dermatologist of Greenpoint Hospital, Brooklyn, in his annual warning against the dangers of overexposure to the summer tan. The doctor estimated that an annual loss of 200,000 working days was caused by illness from sunburn, in many cases 'deliberately and intentionally acquired.' Placing the money loss from this source at $1,400,000 a year, he predicted the waning of the fashion and with it a reduction in the number of cases of severe sunburn."

Section 2

Apple Tree Grafting

A Fredericton, N. B., dispatch June 7 says: "An exploit in the line of horticulture which was performed last season by F. A. Good of Fredericton on his farm at Kingsclear in placing successfully sixty-five distinct varieties of grafts in an apple tree, has been advanced by him this season, to the point where ninety-one grafts are on the tree. These have all taken and are in good condition. Efforts to graft pears on the same tree were not successful."

Business Conditions

The continued subnormal rate of industrial activity during the past month has proved disappointing but it appears that, after allowance for seasonal changes, the general trend is now upward, the American Bankers Association Journal says in its monthly review of business. It continues: "The automobile industry has made a creditable record, production of the textiles and shoes is running better than a year ago and the basic steel industry is showing strong resistance to the contraction that normally occurs at this time of year. Business sentiment in the country at large is becoming more hopeful, although in New York and the other financial centers it remains pessimistic, which is natural in view of the persistent decline of the stock market and of second-grade bonds, the unsettled political conditions, economic troubles and bank failures in numerous foreign countries. New lows in commodity and stock prices have become almost as common as the new highs of two years ago. Bank suspensions are becoming less frequent and are confined almost entirely to the small country banks that are not members of the Federal Reserve System. The big banks in the money centers were never in a more liquid position. Total volume of retail trade is gaining, with the large department stores, chain organizations and mail order houses taking some business away from the high-priced specialty shops and small independents who have not yet recognized and put into effect the lower scale of prices. There is some consolation in the fact that such reduction in wages or working hours as has occurred in various lines has been offset in part by the substantial lowering in the cost of living, including foodstuffs, clothing and rent. Maintenance of consumption of many commodities, notably the goods bought currently or for replacements, well above the present curtailed rate of output, represents a condition that can not go on indefinitely. Without attempting to prophesy the future, it may be safely said that the likelihood of continued though slow recovery seems much stronger than the possibility of a renewed decline to still lower levels of depression."

Chilean Nitrate Combine

A Tocopilla, Chile, dispatch June 7 says: "Chile's huge nitrate combine-- the $300,000,000 government-producing company called Cosach-- is now functioning. Back of this fast-growing nitrate shipping port, on the desert-like pampa, the nation's chief export product is being extracted from the caliche or ore under Cosach supervision and sent out to a consuming world. A little farther down the coast, on the pampa back of Iquique, other and smaller 'oficinas' under Cosach control are shipping nitrate of soda out of their respective ports. The Compania Salitre de Chile, the real name for Cosach, came legally into being recently when more than 75 per cent of the producing companies of Chile formally entered the combine. More of the other companies fast are coming in, and soon virtually all of the natural industry will be within the group....."

Economic Changes Committee

The New York Herald-Tribune for June 9 contains a comprehensive article on the work of the Committee on Recent Economic Changes. This says: "In line with President Hoover's philosophy that business cycles

eventually may be flattened out and overcome by scientific diagnosis, the Committee on Recent Economic Changes has begun a comprehensive study of the economic depression in the hope that it may help prepare the Nation against such serious situations in the future. The Rockefeller Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation and other similar organizations are, it transpires, financing the committee in what is described as the first complete first-hand survey of a major business cycle ever attempted. The purpose is to extend through the present period of trade recession the exhaustive analysis of postwar economic trends in the United States which, as completed up to 1928, was published two years ago and considered throughout the world as the pioneer document of its kind in existence. With the inclusion of the results of the present investigation, it is aimed to have available in 1932 a complete diagnosis of the ten-year postwar period from 1921 to 1931 upon which it will be possible to base safeguarding steps against future widespread unemployment and other preventive measures. The conclusions are to be drawn by a group which includes Eugene Meyer, governor, and Adolph C. Miller, of the Federal Reserve Board; William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; Arch W. Shaw, chairman of the committee; Dr. Julius Klein, Assistant Secretary of Commerce, and Renick W. Dunlap, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. These are all members of the committee on recent economic changes, of which Mr. Hoover was chairman until he bacame President.....The committee and the numerous associated organizations, including the big foundations supplying endowment, are convinced of the importance of the present studies as a hope of eventually finding a method of putting business and employment on an even keel. Underlying trends, whether artificial or natural, it is believed, will yet be understood in the development of technique of balance, which will guide labor and capital alike as well as statesmen to insure greater stability....."

German-British Conference

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for June 9 says: "For the significance of the meeting of German with British statesmen at Chequers Court, one must look elsewhere than in the colorless official account of what took place. One must look, first of all, to the decree issued by the German government at home last Saturday, imposing upon the German people a program of the severest retrenchment in many classes of public and private expenditure, coupled with new taxation. There the Bruening government staked its existence on a scheme for meeting reparations and still maintaining the solvency of the Reich. It can not hope to retain office unless it can without delay convince a majority of Germans that it is making actual progress toward a substantial reduction of the reparations debt. What would follow the fall of the Bruening cabinet it is useless to surmise. A Teutonic brand of fascism would be little less troublesome for the world than a Germany going communistic. It..... is safe to assume that no successor to the Bruening cabinet would be any more successful in holding the country in line for fulfillment of the Young Plan. This flat and final declaration that Germany has reached the limit of her endurance will be met in certain American quarters with the objection that it is the special pleading of one of the parties to a contract. It has already been greeted in France with a more outspoken cynicism. Whatever its justification in truth, it will shortly be subjected to a crucial test of its genuineness as an expression of the German popular will. At the moment the Bruening government functions under emergency powers during a suspension of the sittings of the Reichstag until October.

But the national legislature can be called in extraordinary session by its steering committee, before which Chancellor Bruening and Foreign Minister Curtius will doubtless be forced, before the week is out, to report exactly what they accomplished by their expedition. It is clear that the course of German political events in the near future will depend greatly upon the attitude of other European governments, which in turn will be largely influenced by the attitude of Washington toward a possible revision of war debt settlements....."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

In an editorial on Secretary Hyde's talk before the American Institute of Cooperation at Manhattan, Kans., on Monday, The Washington Post to-day says: ".....The study made by Secretary Hyde shows that many countries have levied duties on meats from three to five times as high as the American tariff. In Soviet Russia and Turkey the duties on hams and shoulders, for example, range from 20 to 25 times as high as those of the United States. Every country is trying to build up its own food supply. During the war agriculture in Europe was at a low ebb and the countries drew heavily upon the United States for food. After the war high duties were levied to stimulate farm production. The result was to deprive American farmers of many export markets they had become accustomed to supplying. Yet the American market still remained open to vast quantities of agricultural products from abroad. Thanks to the tariff act of 1930, those imports have been drastically reduced, and the American farmer now has turned the balance of foreign trade in his favor. About 90 per cent of the products of American farms, says Secretary Hyde, are directly affected by foreign competition. Farmers can not propser unless they are given protection in their home market. The American standard of living on the farm can not be maintained if agricultural producers are exposed to the competition of foreign peasants who exist on a few pennies a day."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

June 9.--Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: Steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice $6.75-8.90; Cows, good and choice $5-6.25; Heifers, (550-850 lbs.) good and choice $7.25-8.65; Vealers, good and choice $8-9.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: Steers, good and choice $6-7.50; Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice $5.90-6.45; Light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice $6.20-6.45; Slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice $6-6.35; (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations); Slaughter sheep and lambs; Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) $8-9.25; Feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice $6.40-8.25.

Grain prices: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 70¾-73¾¢; No. 2 red winter St. Louis 76-77¢; No. 2 hard winter Kansas City 73½¢; No. 3 mixed corn Chicago 55¾¢; Minneapolis 46-47¢; Kansas City 48½-49½¢; No. 3 yellow corn Chicago 55½-56¢; Minneapolis 48-49¢; St. Louis 55½-56½¢; Kansas City 51-52¢; No. 3 white oats Chicago 27¢; Minneapolis 23-7/8-24-3/8¢; St. Louis 29¢; Kansas City 28½-29¢.

North and South Carolina Cobbler potatoes ranged $2-2.75 per stave barrel in eastern cities; mostly $1.85-2 f.o.b. Mount Olive. Alabama sacked Bliss Triumphs $1.45-1.55 per 100 lbs. carlot sales in Chicago; late sales $1 f.o.b. Mobile. Maine sacked Green Mountains $1.25-1.75 in the East. California Salmon Tint cantaloupes $2-3 per standard 45s in consuming centers; 90¢-$1 f.o.b. Brawley. Texas Yellow Bermuda onions $1-1.50 per standard crate in consuming centers. California Yellow Bermudas $1.75 in Boston. Eastern various varieties of strawberries 8-13¢ per qt. in city markets; 32-qt. crates $1.75-4 f.o.b. Delaware points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in the ten designated markets declined 21 points to 7.62¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 13.96¢. July future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 20 points to 8.18¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 21 points to 8.22¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 23¢; 91 score, 22½¢; 90 score, 22¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 12½-14½¢; Single Daisies, 13¾-14¼¢; Young Americas, 14-14½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agric. Economics.)